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MONDAY JUNE 3 1996

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10P  
EVERY  
SUMMER  
MONDAY



THE TIMES GREAT SUMMER OF SPORT



## SCHUMACHER TRIUMPHS

- Three new caps in England's new-look Test team to take on India PAGE 27
- Monica Seles sweeps through to victory in the French Open PAGE 27

ALSO FEATURED INSIDE

## LOWDOWN ON HIGH SOCIETY

A guide for the 90s on movers and losers PAGE 15

PLUS Win a new MGF in our competition PAGE 37

10P  
EVERY  
SUMMER  
MONDAY



Terse statement from Downing Street after report of liaison with divorcée

## Minister resigns over love affair

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND JAMES LANDALE

A JUNIOR Tory minister was forced to resign yesterday over allegations that he was having an extramarital affair.

The abrupt resignation of Rod Richards, a minister in the Welsh Office, immediately reopened allegations of sleaze in Tory ranks which the party has sought hard to dispel over the past few months. Since a series of private-life scandals — most notably those affecting the former ministers David Mellor and Tim Yeo — it has been a clear if unwritten rule that members of the Government caught out in this way must go immediately.

Within 18 hours of a Sunday tabloid newspaper publishing allegations of Mr Richards's affair, the MP for Clwyd North West was asked to leave his post. Party managers moved swiftly to head off a potentially damaging wave of sleaze allegations.

John Major was told of the allegations shortly before he left France yesterday morning. By the time he arrived at Downing Street at lunchtime, Mr Richards had resigned. No letters were exchanged between him and the Prime Minister. A terse statement from Downing Street said: "The Welsh Office Minister Mr Rod Richards has today offered his resignation. This has been accepted."

*The News of the World* claimed that the minister, married with three children, was having an affair with divorcee Julia Felthous, 28, a former publicity officer for the National Canine Defence League. Senior colleagues of Mr Richards made clear that



The wife Liz Richards is mother of three



Divorcee Julia Felthous was PR for dog society

clean but I feel very sorry for his family. He has brought this on himself and paid very dearly for it," said Sir Eric Howells, president of the Conservative Party in Wales.

Mr Richards, who has been married for 21 years, was appointed to the Welsh Office in 1994 after winning his seat with a 6,050 majority at the last election. He gained a reputation as an effective and combative performer, earning the nickname "Redwood's rottweiler" after working for John Redwood, then Welsh Secretary.

He lists his recreations in one parliamentary guidebook as rugby, cricket and family. His wife and three children are missing from Who's Who, which adds two other pastimes: walking and games.

A fluent Welsh speaker, Mr Richards was born and brought up in Llanelli and studied economics at the University of Wales before obtaining a short service commission in the Royal Marines. In the mid-1980s, he joined the BBC as a journalist before becoming a political adviser to David Hunt, the then Secretary of State for Wales, in 1990.

Mr Richards made headlines last year when he was forced to apologise after describing Labour councillors in Wales as "short, fat, slimy and corrupt". He was also reprimanded by Mr Redwood for saying the Welsh had an inferiority complex and no sense of self-worth.

The rapid resignation sent shockwaves through Welsh Tory ranks but although constituency officials voiced astonishment at the disclosures, few came to Mr Richards's defence.

"I am glad he has come

he was left in no doubt that his resignation was necessary. "He has been stupid and he knows it. This sort of behaviour cannot be tolerated," one said.

"People who accept high office — a minister of the Crown — wear an England shirt," said David Evans, a member of the executive of the Tory backbench 1922 Committee and a former parliamentarian.

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## THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

TUESDAY

### HIGH SOCIETY IN THE '90s

Part two  
PLUS: Play Euro  
Interactive Team Football, with a top prize of £25,000

WEDNESDAY

### FASHION

Affordable Yves Saint Laurent  
PLUS: How to win a PC in Interface

THURSDAY

### FILMS

Robert Redford and Michelle Pfeiffer get Up Close and Personal  
PLUS: The best of books

FRIDAY

POP Charlie Watts, unStoned and sophisticated  
PLUS: Clement Freud and Valerie Grove

SATURDAY

SUMMER OF '66  
Celebrated in a special issue of the Magazine  
PLUS: Weekend, Car 96, 1015 for young Times readers and Vision, the 7-day TV and radio guide

EVERY DAY THIS WEEK: COLLECT TOKENS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN AN MGF

# MPs urge Major to give concessions in beef conflict

BY CHARLES BRENNER, IN BRUSSELS, ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND MICHAEL HORNBY

JOHN MAJOR faced pressure from senior Tories yesterday to scale down Britain's campaign of non-cooperation in Europe if the beef ban is partially lifted this week.

As the Prime Minister prepared to meet senior colleagues last night to draw up battle plans, pro-European Conservatives urged him to offer concessions to encourage further easing of the ban.

Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, will today unveil in Luxembourg detailed proposals for speeding the eradication of "mad cow" disease. The latest government attempt to ease the export ban on British beef, outlined in a 130-page dossier, includes a re-worked proposal for the slaughter of up to 80,000 cattle, mainly from dairy herds, identified as being at particular risk of developing "mad cow" disease.

Ministers hope the action will prompt the lifting of the ban on beef derivatives, such as gelatin and tallow, and will be followed by agreement on a framework for gradually ending other parts of the ban.

Cabinet ministers insist that Britain's policy of non-cooperation

More than 130 haulage workers have lost their jobs because of the BSE scare. The beef export firm G. and R. Cadwallader, based at Oswestry in Shropshire, blamed the mad cow crisis for wiping out its haulage business. The company said it was unable to compete with firms who had slashed prices to survive. About 110 drivers and 28 office staff and mechanics will lose their jobs.

with Europe will end only when there is agreement on the derivatives ban and the framework. John Major's strategy meeting at Downing Street last night was attended by Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, Mr Hogg and other senior ministers, including Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister.

Pro-European Tories lined up yesterday to demand a relaxation of the non-cooperation campaign, after Douglas Hurd, the former Foreign Secretary, had given warning against "trench warfare".

Ministers insist that Britain's policy of non-cooperation

Quentin Davies, MP for Stamford and Spalding, said: "If we have the ban lifted on the derivatives, the Government has obtained a very large part of its objectives and it would be natural if we at that point were able to respond in de-escalating this crisis."

Jim Lester, MP for Broxtowe, said: "I am genuinely concerned that, after starting this particular tiger running, it is extremely difficult to control, contrary to our genuine interests. The quicker we can de-escalate and get back to considered, sensible discussions, the better."

Sir Leon Brittan, Vice-President of the European Commission, also urged ministers to consider scaling down the non-cooperation policy if the beef derivatives ban is lifted.

"Let's start the de-escalation process, if the lifting of the byproduct ban goes through, by lowering the level of non-cooperation, even if it can't be totally removed," he said.

As Mr Hogg seeks to win over EU colleagues today with his fullest package of proposals for eradicating the BSE risk, Mr Clarke and Eric Forth, the Employment Minister, will be exercising the non-cooperation policy in adjoining rooms by blocking EU financial and social measures, some of them long supported by Britain. Tomorrow Mr Rifkind will open what the European media is calling a charm offensive in European capitals with a visit to Brussels to put the merits of Britain's case to Jacques Santer, the Commission President.

The non-cooperation policy does seem to be generating a desire among Eurocrats and European politicians to defuse the crisis and clear the way for normal EU business. The Irish, who take over the EU presidency in July, are lobbying hard to clear the decks of beef before their term begins.

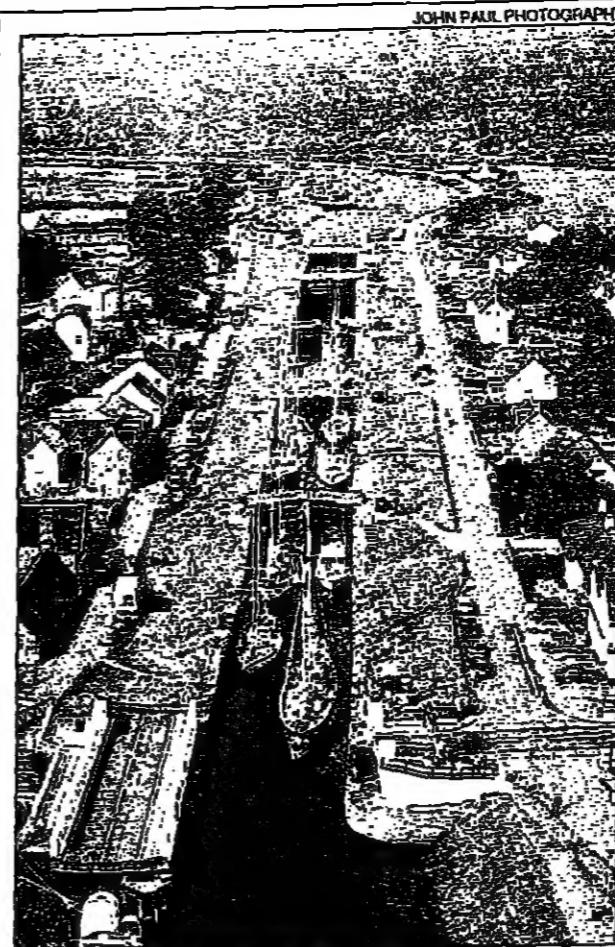
Letters, page 21

## Five more cases of new CJD strain diagnosed

SCIENTISTS have confirmed a new case of the distinctive strain of the fatal human brain condition that has been linked to the "mad cow" epidemic in cattle (Michael Hornby writes). Up to five other people are believed to be suffering from the new type of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease because their symptoms and age fit the clinical description of those shown by previous victims. All are understood to be under 42 and to be showing the characteristic signs of anxiety, depression, unsteadiness and abnormal brain wave patterns.

They have been listed as "probable" victims of the new strain by scientists at the CJD Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh. Only post-mortem analysis of brain tissue will be able to prove the accuracy of the diagnosis.

The Health Department refused to comment on the five cases but disclosed that one further victim of the new variant had been confirmed since March 20, when the Health Secretary disclosed its existence.



The Caledonian Canal: £20 million to repair leaks

## Caledonian Canal 'facing closure'

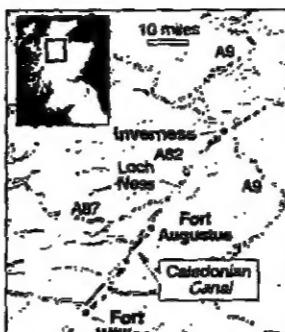
BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THE Caledonian Canal, one of the greatest engineering works of early 19th century Britain and a key contributor to the Highlands economy, is in danger of closure unless £20 million is raised for emergency repairs.

The canal is leaking so badly that most of the original 29 locks designed by the engineer Thomas Telford 200 years ago are in need of extensive maintenance. Tests are being carried out on a daily basis at Fort Augustus in order to keep it open.

British Waterways, the Government-sponsored agency that runs the canal network, is asking the Department of the Environment to pay for a four-year project of running repairs. It argues that the safety of the public is paramount.

Jim Stirling of British Waterways said yesterday that without it the canal



would certainly close possibly as soon as next summer. The locks are deteriorating at an accelerating rate. Obviously we would not be able to operate it if we were not safe.

British Waterways, which says the canal contributes £14.5 million to the tourist industry of the Great Glen and keeps almost 500 people in jobs, is expecting an announcement on funding in July.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

## Talks set to avert threat of post strike

Leaders of Britain's postal workers and the Post Office agreed yesterday to hold new talks on pay and working practices in an attempt to head off the first national mail strike for almost a decade. The decision follows the declaration of a 2-1 vote in favour of strike action.

But talks are unlikely to take place until next week, after the close of the Communication Workers Union annual conference, which began yesterday in Blackpool. A strike would hit domestic and business customers severely, since senior postal managers acknowledged privately that they would be unable to mount any significant mail services. Under government employment laws, a strike would have to begin within four weeks of yesterday's vote.

### Curfew opposed

Labour leaders backed away from calls by Jack Straw for a night-time curfew to stop young children roaming the streets. The Shadow Home Secretary had suggested allowing councils to order a 9pm "lock-up" on children aged under 11 in an effort to reduce late-night crime. Donald Dewar, the party's Chief Whip, said that he was "not sure that a curfew would be a workable solution". Mr Straw had said that curfews seemed to be a sensible way to deal with roaming gangs.

### Visa lottery

Record numbers of young Irish people from both sides of the border have applied for American visas under this year's lottery draw that gives successful applicants the right to live and work in the United States. Up to 500 people will be told in July that a computer has selected their names at random for visas. Applicants must have been educated to sixth-form level or have two years' skilled work experience in the past five years.

### Housing cost

Bad housing breeds a "yob culture", encourages crime and costs the National Health Service more than £1 billion a year, according to a report for the National Housing Forum published today. The cost of modernising Britain's housing stock is put at £10 billion a year for the next decade, but the report claims that money spent now would save lives and money. The forum includes local authorities and housing associations.

### Tube defences

A team of police officers has been set up to counter the effects of a terrorist nerve gas attack on the London Underground and other Metro systems. The British Transport Police acted after the gas attack by a doomsday sect on the Tokyo underground in which more than ten people died. Officers are equipped with protective clothing similar to suits used in the Gulf War and equipment able to detect nerve gasses.

### Flyaway success

A rural airport once derided as a ridiculous project is now heading for an annual passenger turnover of 250,000 people and yearly profits of £400,000. Knock airport in Co Mayo celebrated its tenth anniversary at the weekend. Flights travel to and from North America and England and passenger levels are expected to reach 250,000 by 1998. Building the airport cost £12 million. £3.5 million of which was raised by a local priest.

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## Inspectorate clamps down on police 'fishing trips' to clear up crime

BY STEWART TENDERL

CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE Home Office is to crack down on the way police extract confessions from convicted prisoners after concern that the pressure of meeting clear-up targets is creating an abuse of the system.

New national guidelines for officers will ensure that convicted criminals are not credited with crimes they might confess to but did not commit. In future police officers working to clear up backlog of unsolved crime will have to cross refer any confessions with existing evidence and will no longer be permitted to rely solely on "fishing trips" to interview prisoners.

Drawn up by the Home Office's inspector of constabulary on police in northeast London questioned the reliance on visits to clear up domestic burglaries and criticised the supervision by senior officers. Scotland Yard has already brought in new guidelines in the past few days after criticisms by the inspectorate of

already worry that there is a wide variation between forces in the number of crimes solved by the prison visits.

The new guidelines will be the third attempt in ten years that the Home Office and the inspectorate have tried to police the long-established system of visits, and to prevent abuse. Guidelines were first introduced in 1987 and were re-issued in 1994.

Earlier this year two West Midlands officers were suspended and investigations launched after allegations from former prisoners that they were given trips to public houses, hamburger bars and sex sessions in return for confessing to crimes they did not commit.

Last week a report by the Home Office's inspector of constabulary on police in northeast London questioned the reliance on visits to clear up domestic burglaries and criticised the supervision by senior officers. Scotland Yard has already brought in new guidelines in the past few days after criticisms by the inspectorate of

practice in one part of London and the London guidance is modelled on the planned national announcement.

Under the existing guidelines the visits can be made only if a prisoner requests to see police, where he has made admissions but refuses to let them be placed before a court or where new evidence has emerged. The visits should be authorised by an assistant chief constable.

Closed-circuit television should be installed in custody areas of police stations in London under proposals aimed at allaying public concern over deaths in police stations. The multi-million-pound plan is one of a series of recommendations in a report intended to reassure residents, especially members of the ethnic minority communities, throughout the Metropolitan Police area.

It also recommends that a senior Scotland Yard officer should immediately consider relieving from duty any officer involved in a case where a person has died in custody.

Wiltshire dream got

'It seems the most beautiful printing of photography I have seen. The colour is almost physical'

## Hockney's camera puts new technology in focus

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

AFTER faxes and photocopies, Britain's most celebrated living artist, David Hockney, has been inspired by the latest inkjet printing technology to produce a radical new body of work.

Hockney, 59, an artist who has always seen technology as just another tool of expression, has created photographs that do not look like photographs.

Like his heroes Picasso and Matisse, Hockney can never resist experimenting and innovating: inkjet technology, he discovered, offered a palette of kaleidoscopic colours with an incomparable radiance and detail that blur the boundaries between photographs, paintings and our perception of them. Hockney has never considered his activities as



Hockney: sees artistic possibilities of camera



Jonathan Silver with the print *Photography is dead*

distinct from one another and inkjet printing — which involves dye being sprayed at a surface at a rate of 4 million 15 micron droplets per second — further narrows the divide between them.

The works to be unveiled today at Salts Mill in Saltaire, near his home town of Bradford, mark his important departure from his earlier experiments with both paintings and photography.

These are mesmerising images that explore illusion and space and bewilder the eye. Titles such as *Photograph of a Photograph with Photograph of a painting with motif* tease the viewer into playing spatial games: photographs of photographs of his paintings juxtaposed with the actual paintings and interiors featuring people looking at the paintings. A canvas on an easel is juxtaposed with the actual still-life it represents and a photographic detail of one of his other paintings.

In one, called *Photography is dead. Long live painting*, Hockney's painting of a vase of sunflowers is photographed next to the actual objects: playing with reality and perspective, he has painted the lower part of the vase on to another piece of paper lying on the table, but photographed so that it appears to be standing next to the real thing.

Taking the idea a step further, Hockney suggested sitting a huge jardinière of sunflowers in the gallery.

Yesterday afternoon, commenting on the ideas he was

posed with the actual paintings and interiors featuring people looking at the paintings. A canvas on an easel is juxtaposed with the actual still-life it represents and a photographic detail of one of his other paintings.

narratives his camera art, experimental and spontaneous in technique, has become a major part of his career.

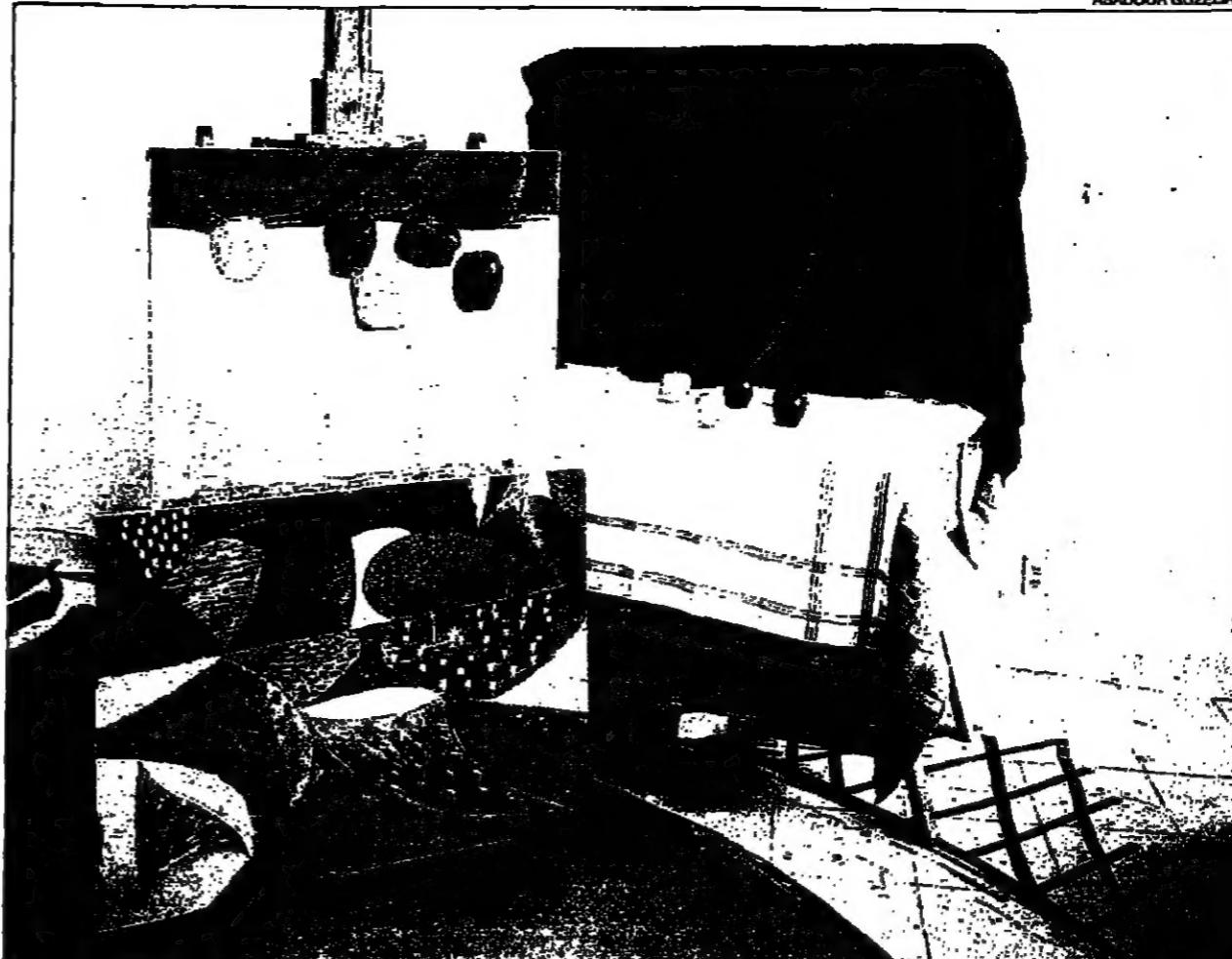
The images go on show at the 1853 Gallery, Salts Mill, a sprawling Grade II listed Victorian mill run by a local businessman Jonathan Silver, 46, who was educated at the same school as Hockney, but became friendly with the artist

when he was a 13-year-old schoolboy and Hockney was being noticed at the Royal College of Art.

Mr Silver rents out part of the building for commercial use: the rest is given over to Hockney. About 300 works, some owned by Mr Silver or on loan from the artist, are on view, attracting 10,000 visitors a week. Mr Silver said of the

paintings and the exhibition photographed are his own. Hockney has been able to play games with the subject-matter ... In this way, the photographs transcend their role as artifacts, records or simple examples of the medium of photography. They become works of imagination.

□ Salts Mill is open seven days, admission free.



Hockney teases the viewer into a spatial game with *Photograph of a Photograph of a painting with motif*

## Six members of family of 13 die in house fire

BY AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A MOTHER and five of her 11 children died in a fire that swept through a house in the Irish Republic. Breda Maher, 48, was killed with two sons and three daughters by the blaze, which is believed to have been started by a grill that had been left on.

Three of Mrs Maher's sons were still in hospital last night, one in a critical condition, while the remaining three were not in the house in Portarlington, Offaly, when fire broke out early yesterday morning.

The dead included Martin Maher, 23, Barry, 12, Joanne, 9, Fiona, 6, and Martin, 2. Their father, Alo Maher, raised the alarm and escaped injury.

Anthony Maher, an uncle,

said one of the sons, Vincent, 17, had blamed himself for causing the fire. "Vincent said he left the grill on and he was telling his father it was all his fault," Mr Maher said.

Colm Maher, 25, who was in a critical condition in hospital last night, suffered serious burns trying to rescue his younger brother Barry, who had muscular dystrophy.

Mr Maher said: "Calm was carrying Barry on his back downstairs when the whole lot collapsed under him and he lost the wee lad into the fire. Colm was just a ball of flames."

He said they wrapped him in a blanket and laid him in the grass. He was repeatedly muttering the phone number of his girlfriend, who was on

the phone number of his girlfriend, who was on



Joanna and Fiona Maher, who died with their mother, sister, and two of their eight brothers as fire gutted their house in the Republic of Ireland yesterday

## Wiltshire village's pipe dream goes up in smoke

BY ADRIAN LEE

THE British company that handcrafted the Rolls-Royce of smokers' pipes has closed with the loss of seven jobs. The Tilshead Pipe Company made pipes for some of the world's most famous pipe smokers, including Bing Crosby, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Tom Selleck.

The demise of Tilshead reflects a continuing decline in popularity since the 1960s, when pipe smoking seemed synonymous with sagacity. There are thought to be fewer than 20 companies making pipes in Britain.

At the height of its success Tilshead, based in a Wiltshire village that bears its name on the edge of Salisbury Plain, produced 315 pipes a week at prices up to £1,200 apiece. The company's James Upshall pipe was widely recognised as one of the world's finest.

A creditors' meeting will be held on Friday but unless a buyer can be found, one of the most famous names in pipe making will be lost. Barry Jones, the managing director, said yesterday that the company, founded early this century, has debts of £80,000.



Crosby: smoked pipe made by Tilshead

has 448 members. "The young today generally don't want to smoke a pipe because they think they will lose face and suffer ridicule," Mr Wiseman said. "Any fool can smoke a cigarette but to smoke a pipe you have to know what you are doing."

A quality briar pipe can take five years to make and there are some 300 tobaccos to choose from. The introduction of flavoured varieties has helped to attract younger smokers but John Duncan, former president of the Briar Pipe Trade Association, fears pipe making may become a cottage industry. "We need a young celebrity smoker," he said. "Someone from Take That smoking a pipe would do a power of good."

The popularity of pipe smoking peaked in the early 1960s and was encouraged by the pipe-smoking Prime Minister, Harold Wilson. The industry stages a pipe smoker of the year contest. Previous winners include Ian Botham, Barry Norman, Fred Truman and James Galway. This year's winner was Sir Colin Davis, principal conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra.



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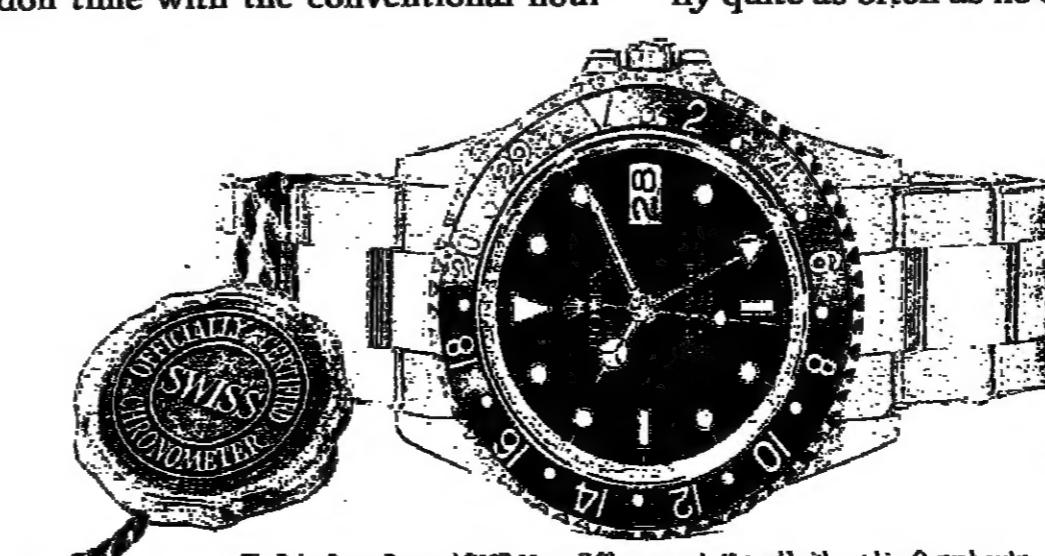
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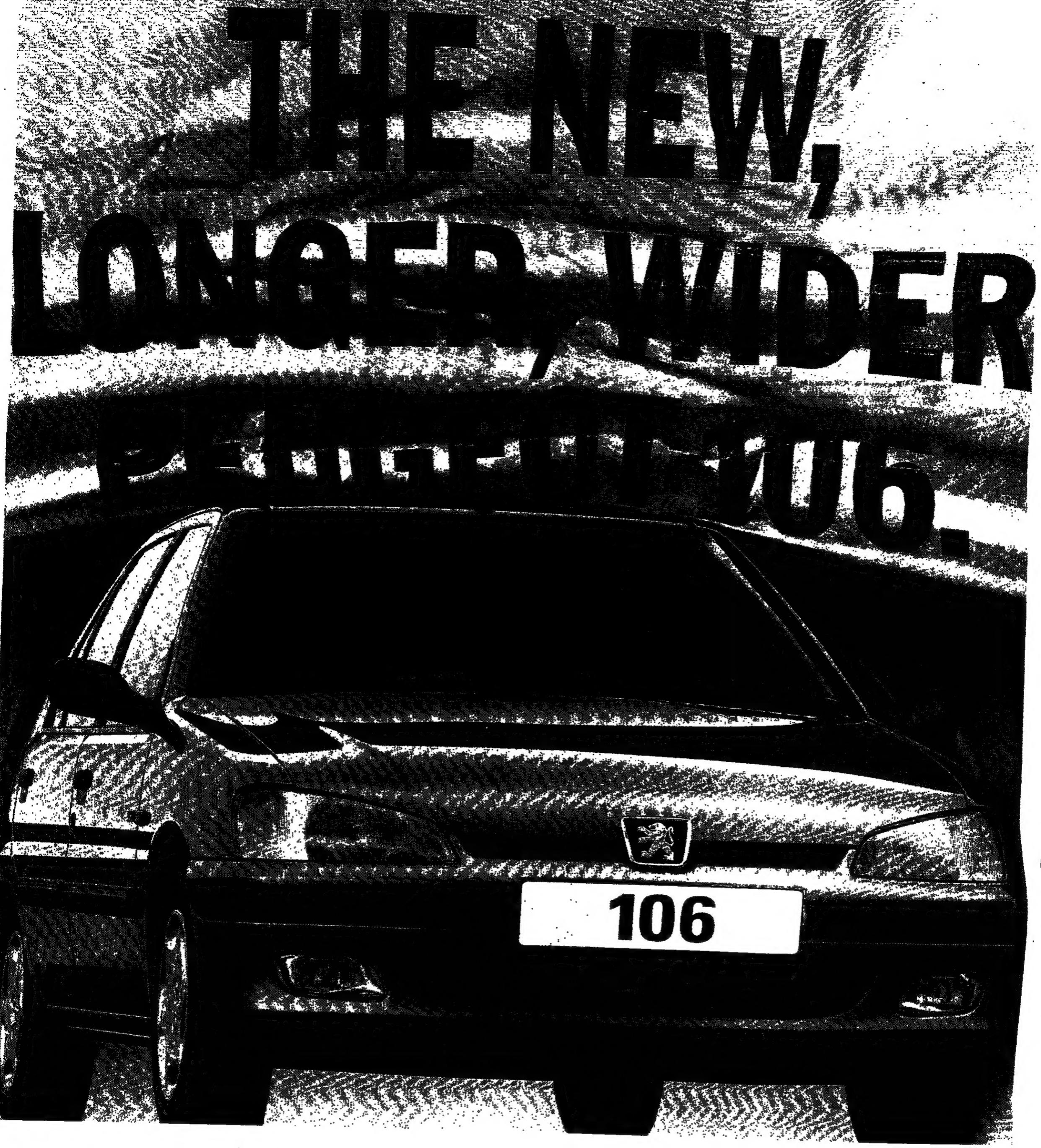


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Tourists go underground to explore relics of nuclear age

## Bunkers come in from the cold

By MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

TOP-secret nuclear bunkers that would have provided safe homes for regional governments during a doomsday missile attack on Britain are coming in from the cold as the latest tourist attraction. Ten of the Government's 17 nuclear bomb-proof bunkers, huge three-storey buildings built below ground, have been sold in England and Wales as the Home Office relinquishes its hold on the emergency hideouts.

Two more have been transferred to other government departments and the Scottish Office has also sold several bunkers in Scotland.

Although the Government reserves the right to reinstate the bunkers as regional government headquarters in the event of a threatened nuclear attack, some of them have been turned into museums and are attracting an increasing number of people, curious to see how taxpayers' money was spent to allow ministers and officials to run the country after a nuclear holocaust.

The ten bunkers, sold to

private companies and individuals, have fetched nearly £1.2 million, although they cost tens of millions of pounds to build in the 1950s. The bunkers disposed of by the Home Office in England and Wales include ones in Skendleby in Lincolnshire, Loughborough in Leicestershire, Kelvedon Hatch in Essex, Preston in Lancashire, Black Green in Cheshire and Basingstoke in Hampshire.

A former army sergeant who took voluntary redundancy in 1994 now spends every working day underground in a nuclear bunker sold by

the Scottish Office for £125,000. He has just become manager of the Troy Wood bunker outside Anstruther in Fife, which has been turned into a museum.

Last year, about 68,000 people visited the bunker,

which is filled with Second

World War fixtures and fittings.

Ken Mitchell, 36, who served with the Royal Signals, gave up a degree course at Stirling University to apply for the job as manager of the museum. He now spends each working day surrounded by a reinforced concrete 100ft be-

low ground. "People are very curious about these bunkers," he said. "They come here and either spend hours wandering around or they leave quite quickly, amazed at how past governments have spent taxpayers' money."

The Government spent £5 million refurbishing Troy Wood three years before it was put on the market. The bunker has accommodation for 300 people. The Home Office said the average nuclear bunker was built to house 150 working officials who would be headed by a regional commissioner, nor-

mally a government minister, acting under emergency powers.

The bunker at Kelvedon Hatch, which was bought by Michael Parrish, a farmer, for £100,000, has also been turned into a museum. He has missile attack early-warning sirens, scrambler phones and teleprinters on display. There is also a wax figure of John Major asleep on one of the bunks.

The Government put the regional nuclear bunkers up for sale once the Cold War ended. However, one bunker

survived the sell-off. Project

Pindar, codename for a new Government nuclear command bunker underneath the Ministry of Defence, went ahead despite the sale of the regional headquarters.

This bunker, which became

operational in December 1992, cost £126 million, of which £60 million was spent on construction and £60 million on systems installations.

The Whitehall strategic command centre for Ministry of Defence and other government staff is manned in peace-time by a small staff and has facilities for emergencies.



Ken Mitchell, manager of Troy Wood bunker, which could accommodate 300

## Primary pupils lag years behind Europe in maths

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

PRIMARY school pupils in England are up to two years behind their contemporaries in parts of Europe and the Far East in mathematics, according to a report to be published by the school inspection agency later this month.

The review of international research on primary school standards, concentrates on mathematics and science as the subjects least affected by language differences. Its findings, compiled by Professor David Reynolds, of Newcastle University, will reignite the debate on the impact of progressive teaching methods.

Professor Reynolds, who heads the International School Effectiveness Research Project Team, links English under-achievement with the relatively low amount of direct teaching time, for each pupil, in schools organising pupils in small groups rather than as a whole class.

In a preview of the report on the BBC's *Panorama* pro-

gramme tonight Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, says the research shows there are "significant problems" in mathematics and more could be achieved in science. "It's a portrait of a system that's not succeeding enough when we compare what children in European countries and in Pacific Rim countries are achieving."

Three recent international studies examined in Professor Reynolds' report all show English children falling behind. Research at Exeter University showed them performing poorly in a 17-country comparison at the start of secondary education; the National Institute of Economic and Social Research uncovered a two-year gap in mathematics compared with Swiss primary pupils; and the Newcastle team produced similar conclusions in relation to Taiwan and Hong Kong.

The Newcastle research compared standards in up to a dozen primary schools in nine countries. The English schools showed the greatest variation between high and low achievers and were the only ones where the gap widened during the two years of the survey.

In mathematics, English pupils were on a par with those in The Netherlands and America, but behind Hong Kong and Taiwan, which had the best high-level results. The English did well in statistics and data-handling, but were poor at basic arithmetic.

In his *Panorama* interview, Mr Woodhead says the research suggests that at least half of all primary school lessons should be devoted to whole-class teaching.

Woodhead: said system was failing children

## Budget might lift university fee threat

CONFIDENTIAL reports on the state of universities, due for completion this week, may pave the way for a lifting of the threat to charge entry fees for degree courses for the first time (John O'Leary writes).

Joint working groups of civil servants and vice-chancellors are to produce assessments of the damage done by cuts in government funding and the potential for private sponsorship of research equipment. The universities hope that the result will be extra money in November's Budget.

The Committee of Vice-



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# Ireland's 'Queen Mary' seeks common ground in Britain

The woman reckoned by her compatriots to be the world's most popular head of state arrives in Britain tomorrow for her first official visit.

Mary Robinson, President of the Irish Republic, has already been to the neighbour country more than a dozen times since she was elected six years ago. In the course of turning upside-down a presidency once regarded as a rest cure for retired politicians, she once took tea with the Queen at Buckingham Palace. But this week's formal visit marks another stage in Mrs Robinson's relentless personal campaign to make Ireland and Britain enjoy each other's company a little more.

In an interview with *The Times* on the eve of her trip, she recalled that when she suggested her first trip to Britain in 1991, she discovered that she would be the first President of her young country ever to set foot there. "I think that in its own way explains a little of the difficulties and why I believe that this visit is very significant progress," she said.

The implied rebuke to her predecessors for failing to

■ Mary Robinson arrives in London tomorrow on the first official visit by an Irish President — and a personal crusade to forge better relations, George Brock reports

make the same journey is the closest Mrs Robinson can come to politics. She wants the peace in Northern Ireland to be "sustainable" and would "of course" like to see a ceasefire, but leaves it at that.

She sits ramrod straight on the sofa and refuses to discuss the whispering campaign that is pushing her as the next Secretary-General of the United Nations. Although voted into office by a people with no fondness for the nobility, the President has a naturally aristocratic style.

With the American Ambassador, the Papal nuncio, and Dublin Zoo as their nearest neighbours, Mrs Robinson, her husband Nick, a lawyer, and their three children live in the almost eerie quiet of the old residence of British viceroys in Phoenix Park. Not for nothing have some Presidents been known as the "Prisoner in the Park". The President requires the Government's permission to leave

the country, to deliver high-profile speeches and must keep out of politics. Even the make of mineral water available in the residence is regularly changed to avoid any suspicion that the head of state is endorsing a particular brand.

Acquiring a reputation as "Queen Mary", she has used her chic formality to escape and turn herself into a global superstar, selling what she calls "the modern Ireland". Britain and Ireland, she thinks, may be so wrapped up in Northern Ireland that they have failed to notice changes elsewhere.

With 43 per cent of its population under 25, world-class filmmakers from U2 to Riverdance, and a booming "Celtic Tiger" economy, Ireland has become more outward-looking and self-confident. Successful membership of the EU —

"If we relate that to the context of Northern Ireland and we say that Irishness is not simply territorial, then it can reach out to those in Northern Ireland whose sense of identity is British and who feel very strongly that they define themselves as being British. And it's possible to say, 'fine you define yourselves as British but that doesn't exclude a component of Irishness, which can be a meeting ground.' This prim



Mary Robinson at Phoenix Park, her official residence: her energetic style has transformed the presidency

and circumspect support for a more generous attitude to Unionists in the North is as political as Mrs Robinson gets nowadays. In an earlier life, she was a well-known lawyer and campaigner for women's

rights, she was more outspoken. Mrs Robinson has only just turned 52. If she chose to run for another seven-year term as President next year, she would face no opposition. But there is talk that she is

chafing at her imprisonment in the Park and wants to spread her wings. If a Third World candidate or her inexperience in big organisations denied her the top job at the UN, she could set her cap at

becoming the UN's High Commissioner for Refugees. Almost as soon as she leaves London, she visits America. Her meetings in Washington may turn out to be job interviews.

## IRA has the will and the means to renew violence

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE IRA has threatened to renew "military activities" after a three-month lull in bombings in spite of calls yesterday for a new ceasefire and an apparent softening of the Government's position on disarmament.

The threat is being treated seriously by the security authorities who have suspected for some time that the seven-man IRA army council cannot decide whether to support the peace path.

The IRA hierarchy's refusal to consider a new ceasefire before the proposed all-party talks next Monday has also underlined the organisation's confidence in its ability to mount a new wave of attacks.

Not only are there large stocks of weapons and explosives stored in secret dumps in the Republic, but during the 17-month ceasefire, the terrorists developed a new, more deadly mortar, known as the mark 17.

According to an assessment of the IRA's capabilities, to be published by *Jane's Intelligence Review* in July and August, the mark 17 mortar has been tested in the Carlingford Lough area of Co Louth, south of the border.

*Jane's* says the IRA's estimated arms inventory includes 40 RPG-7 rocket launchers, 20 12.7mm heavy machineguns, six flamethrowers, 650 AK47 assault rifles, a few dozen Armalite assault rifles, three tonnes of Semtex.

30lb Semtex device hidden under Hammersmith bridge failed to detonate.

However, the security authorities are in no doubt that the IRA has the capability and weapons to mount attacks over a sustained period.

According to security sources, the IRA's stocks include up to six Sam-7 surface-to-air missiles. Previous reports referred to just one Sam-7, which has never been used.

*Jane's* says the IRA's estimated arms inventory includes 40 RPG-7 rocket launchers, 20 12.7mm heavy machineguns, six flamethrowers, 650 AK47 assault rifles, a few dozen Armalite assault rifles, three tonnes of Semtex.

One Barrett M82A1 sniper rifle and 600 detonators. The IRA is also believed to have Heckler & Koch G3 assault rifles.

Estonia is believed to be a new source of illegal arms for the IRA. This has been denied by Estonian government spokesmen but intelligence sources in Britain admit this suspected link has been investigated.

The *Jane's* assessment says that during the ceasefire that ended in February, the IRA

kept its structure intact and the so-called quartermaster-general, a man living just south of the border near Dundalk, had sufficient terrorist material to equip the equivalent of two "battalions" for a considerable time.

The network of IRA active service units is also in place and ready to be reactivated.

Although the focus since the ceasefire ended has been on bombing operations in London, the units in Northern Ireland have remained fully operational.

In the Irish Republic there are a small number of active service units in Dublin and additional members are spread thinly around the arms dumps in other areas of the republic.

Some of the biggest arms dumps are believed to be in the Munster area in the south of the Republic. They are believed to be inside farm buildings or under silage pits to counteract sophisticated detection equipment used by the security forces.

THE IRA has the will and the means to renew violence

and the means to do it.

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

Phone lines are open 8am-8pm Monday-Friday and 10am-2pm Saturday. Issued by Midland Bank plc.



## Reynolds says ceasefire precondition is silly

BY NICHOLAS WATT: CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

ALBERT REYNOLDS, the former Irish Prime Minister, yesterday called on London and Dublin to drop their insistence that the IRA must declare a ceasefire to allow Sinn Fein to join all-party talks on June 10.

Speaking after Sinn Fein increased its share of the vote in last week's election, Mr Reynolds said that the two governments would look "silly" if they barred Sinn Fein from the talks.

Mr Reynolds, who played a key role in brokering the IRA's last ceasefire in 1994, said that Sinn Fein should be admitted to the talks if it gives an undertaking that it will persuade the IRA to end its campaign. "It would look silly to the whole world if Sinn Fein is excluded.

They should be allowed into the preliminary talks on the understanding there will be a ceasefire ... Talks in the Middle East and Bosnia started without ceasefires."

Mr Reynolds' comments came as Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary, and Dick Spring, Ireland's Deputy Prime Minister, prepared to thrash out the final details for the talks at a meeting in London today.

Dublin is pressing Britain to agree an agenda for the talks that will reassure Sinn Fein that the issue of IRA weapons will not be allowed to block discussions on other issues, such as policing and constitu-

tional matters. Dublin is hoping that Sir Patrick and Mr Spring will reach agreement on nominating George Mitchell, the former US senator, to chair the talks on decommissioning. Mr Reynolds believes that republicans would be encouraged if Mr Mitchell, who chaired the international commission on arms, is given such an important role.

The former Taoiseach said yesterday that a pledge from the two governments that decommissioning would not dominate the talks on June 10 would help to give Sinn Fein the reassurance it needs for a ceasefire. "Calling a ceasefire is a highly complex thing to do," he said. "There are structures to go through. What we



Reynolds: brokered the last ceasefire

## Labour seeks invitation for Sinn Fein

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY

THE Labour leadership will increase pressure on ministers tomorrow to accept an IRA ceasefire at face value and allow Sinn Fein into next week's all-party talks.

Marjorie Mowlam, Shadow Northern Ireland Secretary, will set out the need to include Gerry Adams's party in the negotiations even without a long-term truce from the IRA.

John Major has repeatedly made clear that Sinn Fein will not be allowed into the talks unless there is an unequivocal restoration of the ceasefire, backed by firm evidence of a cessation of violence. However, Ms Mowlam will make clear in a key speech in Belfast tomorrow that ministers should not attach conditions to

a declaration of a ceasefire. "We should not be looking for validation. A declaration should be enough and we should not go into a definition of a ceasefire. I would hope that the British and Irish governments will look at how the talks will develop. If there is an IRA ceasefire then Sinn Fein should be allowed into the talks."

Such a move would infuriate Unionists, who say that a declaration of a ceasefire only days before the talks would be meaningless. Ministers are reluctant to concede any ground on the terms of a ceasefire but are braced for intense pressure to give way if the IRA announces a truce within the next week.

The move by Labour leaders coincides with growing pressure on the Govern-

ment to avoid a high-profile clash with Sinn Fein leaders excluded from the talks.

Clive Soley, Labour MP for Hamersmith, went further than Ms Mowlam in calling on ministers to accept the absence of IRA violence as a *de facto* ceasefire that would allow Sinn Fein into the talks. Mr Soley said on GMTV's *Sunday* that the move would help to "marginalise" hardline IRA elements. He pointed to Sinn Fein's success in achieving 15.4 per cent support in last week's Northern Ireland elections and said that it "indicates the strength of feeling". "I certainly think Sinn Fein has to be there," he said.

However, Ms Mowlam distanced herself from this view by making clear that the party's line was that the IRA would have to declare a ceasefire formally.



Margaret, the 17-year-old American bald eagle, with her falconer Geoff Pearson

A BIRD of prey has come to the rescue of fishermen on a Norfolk lake where a colony of cormorants has been taking its pick of the bream, tench, carp and perch.

Owners of Fritton Lake

Country Park applied two years ago for a licence to cull the birds but were turned down because they could not quantify the amount of fish being eaten. Scarecrows on boats floating down the lake and the use of bird scarers merely resulted in them moving their nests from one end to the other.

But the birds have now

taken flight with the arrival of an American bald eagle called Margaret. The bird, named after the former Prime Minister for her ability to see off

opponents without much show of effort, began flying over the lake three weeks ago.

Chris Ash, the park manager, said: "It was not our original intention to use the bird to chase off the cormorants. She was being trained to take a more entertaining and dramatic role in our falconry display and we got his secondary benefit."

More than 200 birds nest

around the water, damaging

not only fish stocks in the lake on Lord Somerleyton's 5,000 acre estate near Great Yarmouth but destroying trees as well.

The 17-year-old eagle, which has a 7ft wingspan, has been in the falconry display at Great Windsor Park, which has since been disbanded.

"She is quite a lazy bird and we hope that will change."

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**CONSERVATIVE**

# Prison Service backs US 'supermax' jail for high risk inmates

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A SUPER-SECURE jail to hold all Britain's most dangerous prisoners in one place has been recommended by the Prison Service in a move that marks an historic shift in policy.

Up to 300 high-risk prisoners and a further 200 volatile and psychotic inmates would be held in the jail, which would be modelled on American "supermax" prisons and cost more than £55 million. In an attempt to reduce staffing costs, the Prison Service has proposed allowing armed guards to patrol the perimeter fence, reducing the number needed.

The recommendation was made after months of study by a small team of Prison Service officials headed by Robin Halward, the former governor of Strangeways Prison in Manchester. The move to support the building of a single jail to hold the most dangerous offenders, such as Dennis Nilsen, who is believed to have killed up to 16

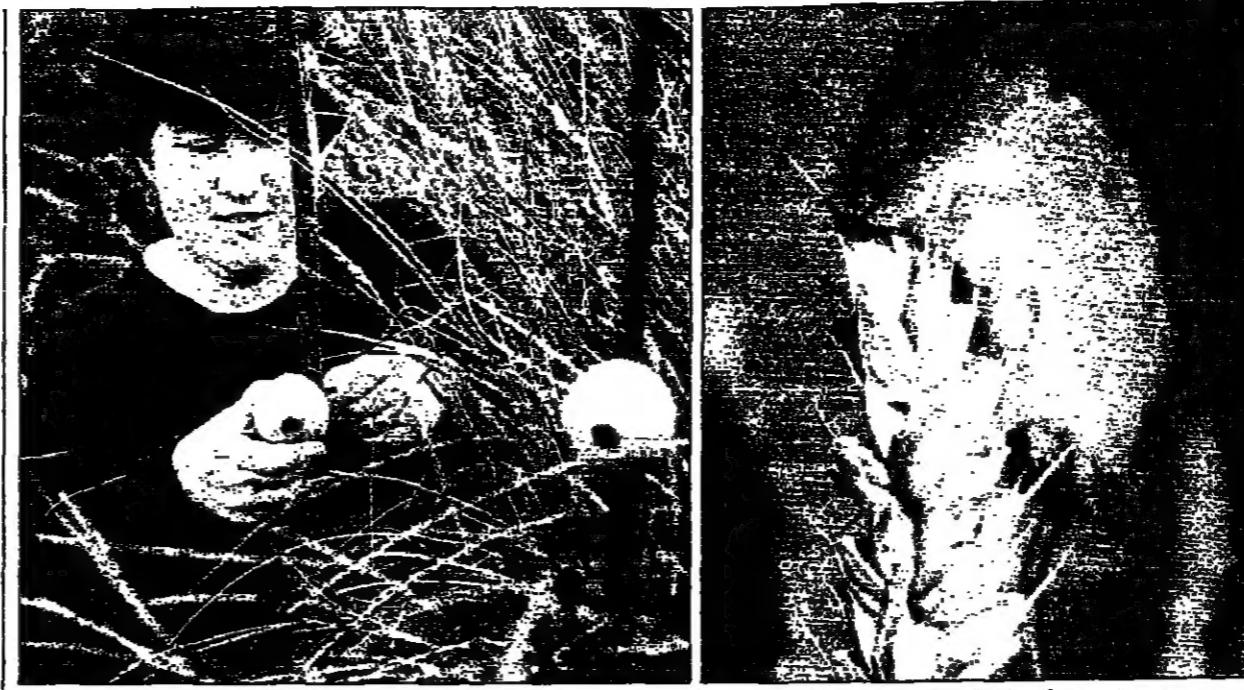
men at his flat in north London, and Donald Neilson, known as the Black Panther, was made after intense discussion.

Richard Tilt, Director-General of the Prison Service, said last month that officials would discuss with Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, how it would work. "It is certainly feasible. There are detailed arguments for and against. I think it is very, very finely balanced," he said.

Other official sources said that the recommendation marked a major change of culture within the Prison Service and placed great emphasis on the creation of personal contacts between offenders and the prison officers who guarded them.

Mr Howard is expected to make the final decision on whether to support the project later this year, but finding the money is a key consideration.

The Government is likely to look to the private sector to build the jail, with the public



Alison Tutt, mammal recorder for Surrey, siring converted tennis balls to trap the elusive harvest mouse

## New balls serve to save our smallest mouse

By NICK NUTTALL

CONCERN about the welfare of one of Britain's smallest mammals has prompted naturalists to renew efforts to protect the elusive harvest mouse.

More than 10,000 tennis balls, mounted on bamboo poles, are being converted into humane traps and distributed to members of the Mammal Society to assess how the tiny rodents — which weigh about the same as a 20p piece — are faring alongside modern

farming methods. Gillie Sargent, development officer of the Mammal Society, said the research would give an idea of where in Britain the creatures were still living.

The last survey, carried out 20 years ago without the aid of tennis balls, indicated Britain had a breeding population of about 1½ million harvest mice, so called because they build ball-like nests in grasses and reeds which can become exposed at harvest time. They

are known to be in southern England and east of Yorkshire, with some colonies in Wales and others scattered elsewhere. But Pat Morris, chairman of the Mammal Society, said without a new survey it was impossible to say how the mice, *Microtus agrestis*, had fared in the past two decades. "Harvest mice are so shy that few people ever see them."

The scheme, part of the society's Look Out for Mammals project, is backed by English Nature, the People's Trust for Endangered Species and Slazenger, which has donated the tennis balls.

## ENRICHMENT

### Firearms amnesty launched

Police forces begin a firearms amnesty today, running until June 30, under which all illegal guns can be handed in without fear of prosecution — provided that they have not been used in crimes. Most of the guns will be destroyed or melted down although rarer items may be offered to museums. A similar amnesty in 1988 netted 48,000 weapons and 1½ million rounds of ammunition.

#### Father sought

Martin Mintoff, 38, a cousin of Dom Mintoff, the former Prime Minister of Malta, was being sought at ports and airports after allegedly snatching his four-year-old son Matthew during a visit to his estranged wife Kathleen, who lives with the boy at Stockport, Greater Manchester.

#### Playground tents

Schools are being urged to provide tents in playgrounds during the summer to protect pupils from the sun. Dr David Harris, of the Whittington Hospital in Highgate, north London, claims in a letter to teachers that skin cancer in adulthood is strongly linked to sunburn in childhood.

#### Back on tour

The pleasures and hardships of the 18th-century Grand Tour are to be conjured up for modern art lovers at an exhibition. The Tate Gallery in London is to exhibit 265 relics from Italy, including the first loan of Vatican sculpture to Britain, from October 10 to January 5.

#### Woman mugged

A woman aged 87 was left with a suspected broken hip and wrist after she was assaulted and robbed on her way to church in Poole, Dorset. The attacker, in his twenties or thirties, pushed the woman to the ground before snatching her handbag and taking £2 and a diary.

#### Drive-by attack

Three people were taken to hospital after a shotgun was fired at them from a car in Sheffield. The driver shot at two women and a man twice before driving off on Saturday night. One of the women had to have surgery and the others were released after treatment.

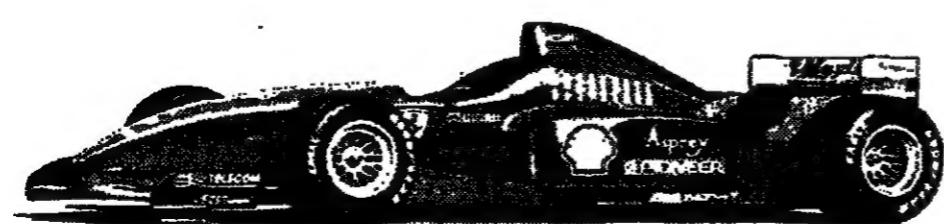
#### Rare turtle freed

One of the biggest turtles ever seen off the British coast has been freed after being trapped in mooring lines. Details of the rare 10ft-long leatherback turtle, found at Coverack on the Lizard peninsula, Cornwall, are being sent to the Natural History Museum.

#### Covenient store

Carole Bennett, 48, wrote to Littlewood's to suggest the company opened one of its stores in a vacant unit at the Swan Centre mall in her home town, Eastleigh in Hampshire, and has now been invited to perform the opening ceremony in September.

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### Thin line between fashion and shame

## MEDICAL BRIEFING

MANY years ago, before homosexuality was admissible, a patient, a well-known actor now dead, told me that he was about to announce his engagement to a frail, but beautiful, woman. Referring to his fiancee's slender, child-like form, he said: "My agent and career demand that I get married and this is the nearest I could find to a boy."

The marriage didn't last.

The recent outcry against the choice of thin juvenile women as models has emphasised the danger that this fashion poses to their contemporaries by triggering any latent tendencies they might have to become anorexic.

Although Giles Rees's threat, since withdrawn, to remove advertising of Omega watches from magazines which use immature models didn't mention it, he might well have suggested that the use of child-like figures might encourage paedophilic tendencies.

Nobody expects models to be as plump as those portrayed by Rubens but Mr Rees's preference for advertising by models with a more mature, fuller figure would have cheered many magazine

readers, parents and psychologists and now has support from doctors working in casualty departments as well as in psychiatric outpatients.

A recent survey published in the *Archives of Internal Medicine* showed that being underweight in middle and older age, if a woman, was associated with an increase in the chance of sustaining a fractured hip, which might remove much of the statistical advantage in terms of longevity of being thin. A fractured hip is a common cause of death in older patients.

In the survey, more than 3,500 American women had any weight changes after the age of 50 plotted against their incidence of hip fractures. If a woman lost 10 per cent or more of her weight after middle age she was three times more likely to fracture her hip, whereas those who gained weight were less likely to sustain a fracture. Those women who were thin at 50, and despite this lost weight, were the most vulnerable to hip fractures.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

Suppressed report suggests possibility of link between dozen deaths and maltreatment in care

# Council 'did more to protect rights of gays than children'

REPORTS BY DOMINIC KENNEDY, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

BOYS were sexually abused when a council put its equal opportunities policy for homosexuals ahead of protecting children, according to the full unpublished report into one of Britain's worst care scandals.

The 300-page document says that employees of Clwyd County Council, which banned discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation, had been unable to distinguish between homosexuality, paedophilia and child abuse. Paedophiles were able to exploit this climate of confusion to attack children who had been entrusted to their care.

In another disturbing finding, boys under 16 were allowed to have sex with each other because staff believed they were freely expressing their homosexuality rather than being victims of abuse. One boy involved was aged under ten.

Public figures were suggested to have been involved in abusing young boys in North Wales. But an independent panel of experts, led by John Jillings, retired social services director for Derbyshire, decided that allegations involving famous names and paedophile

## THE REPORT

rings were beyond the remit of its report.

The document was commissioned by Clwyd but suppressed by councillors in one of their final acts before the authority was abolished under local government reorganisation in April. The report was withheld amid concern that the council would face legal action after its publication.

Of the 12 children who died, four had lived at Bryn Estyn, a council-run children's home in Wrexham, and four at Bryn Alyn, a private sector complex of homes mostly in Clwyd. The panel believes the possibility of a link between the deaths and maltreatment in care warrants serious consideration.

Since 1974, when Clwyd was created, there have been 51 disciplinary actions and 13 convictions of child care workers, alarming numbers, according to the panel.

Their report draws attention to Clwyd's equal opportunities policy in employment, which encompassed sexual orientation. It states: "The rights of employees and those of children need to be equally balanced and managed by senior officers and elected members. This does not seem to have been the case in Clwyd, with employees' rights taking precedence while children were sexually exploited under the guise of 'homosexual equali-

ty'." A Clwyd source told *The Times* that the equal opportunities policy was open to abuse by paedophiles claiming they were being discriminated against on the grounds of being homosexuals.

The panel was alarmed by one children's home where some staff were unconcerned that boys were having sex together because they believed that children should be free to be gay. The possibility of a paedophile ring had been mentioned.

The report says: "In a police statement made by a 13-year-old resident, he admitted that he had sexual contact with five different boys. He also said that they had all been willing parties to the contact. However in another statement made to police, the youngest boy involved, aged about eight or nine, clearly indicated that

he did not consent to the sexual contact that was taking place. 'Two brothers must fall into the category of suspected victims of sexual abuse given allegations that the older boy regularly sexually assaulted his younger brother whilst resident in the unit,' the report continues.

"Yet it appears that some of the division's child care staff remained convinced that the behaviour was an expression of homosexuality, freely chosen, and therefore that it constituted consensual activity – albeit under-age – and as such was not a matter for concern. This view seems to have been supported by at least one senior manager within the division," the report states.

Two of the boys were in contact with a former resident of another children's home

One of the homes run by Clwyd social services, known then as Bryn Estyn. Four of its residents have died

who was believed to be involved in male prostitution.

Prominent names have been given to the police and the inquiry panel but the report leaves them out.

An internal social services inquiry such as that of the independent panel cannot hope to address successfully the wider areas of concern which we identified, having neither the resources nor the authority to do so," it states.

"Concern has been expressed in Clwyd over the possibility of links between some of the abusers, as well as the possible existence of a paedophile ring. Whilst it was recognised that this panel of investigation did not have the necessary powers to investigate these matters the County Council has throughout been in favour of a major public inquiry to be initiated by the

Welsh Office following the last of the trials, and including in its remit the task of considering links between paedophiles."

The unpublished report has become a political football between the Welsh Office and the small local authorities which succeeded Clwyd.

William Hague, the Welsh Secretary, has called on the councils to produce a timetable for publishing the document. He in turn has been urged to place a copy in the Commons library so MPs can quote it using parliamentary privilege. This would solve the problem of potential libel actions from individuals identified in the report, and would avoid the risk of the councils losing their insurance cover.

Mr Hague has so far resisted calls for a full inquiry into child abuse in North Wales. The social services department failed to supply emergency accommodation for M, resulting in her having to spend a night in a police cell. A criminal investigation led to several young men being convicted of sexual offences while the owner of the premises was convicted of keeping a disorderly house and allowing a young female person to use the premises for unlawful sexual intercourse.

Police found that M's bedroom had no door, curtains, carpet or furniture. M slept on a thin mattress with a large hole and no bedding.

"There must be serious doubt as to whether some of the incidents described in M's case could be in any sense consensual," the report says. "One incident described M being tied to a mop handle, dragged upstairs and put in a bath of cold water."



Hague called for the report's publication

## Police insurance company solicitors tried to discourage inquiry

THE insurance company whose solicitors tried to discourage Clwyd County Council from holding a wide-ranging inquiry into child abuse also insured North Wales Police, some of whose officers were alleged to be among the abusers.

The Jillings Report cites a letter from the insurers' solicitors to Clwyd in November 1993 criticising statements that the council had badly let down children in its care. This followed the conviction of a man for sexually abusing boys in

care. "An expression of regret to a child who has suffered sexual abuse is often regarded as part of the healing process," the report says. "The independent panel would not like to think that such expressions of concern are to be condemned."

The insurers' solicitor wrote to Clwyd's county secretary on February 24, 1994: "We do not see why it is necessary to have such a wide-ranging inquiry. The police have conducted what has been described as the most extensive inquiry into

## THE POLICE

child abuse ever carried out."

The Jillings report highlights criticism of North Wales Police for deciding to launch its own criminal investigation instead of calling in an outside constabulary.

Clwyd had consistently pressed the Chief Constable and the Minister of State at the Home Office to accept that it was inappropriate for North Wales Police to investigate

profoundly serious allegations by young people directed, in part, against members of the force.

The report quotes a letter from the Private Secretary to the Home Office to Clwyd on May 17, 1993, that the then Chief Constable of North Wales "has resisted the suggestion ... of HM Inspector of Constabulary that the appointment of an officer from outside the force would dispel any local disquiet about the objectivity of the investigation."

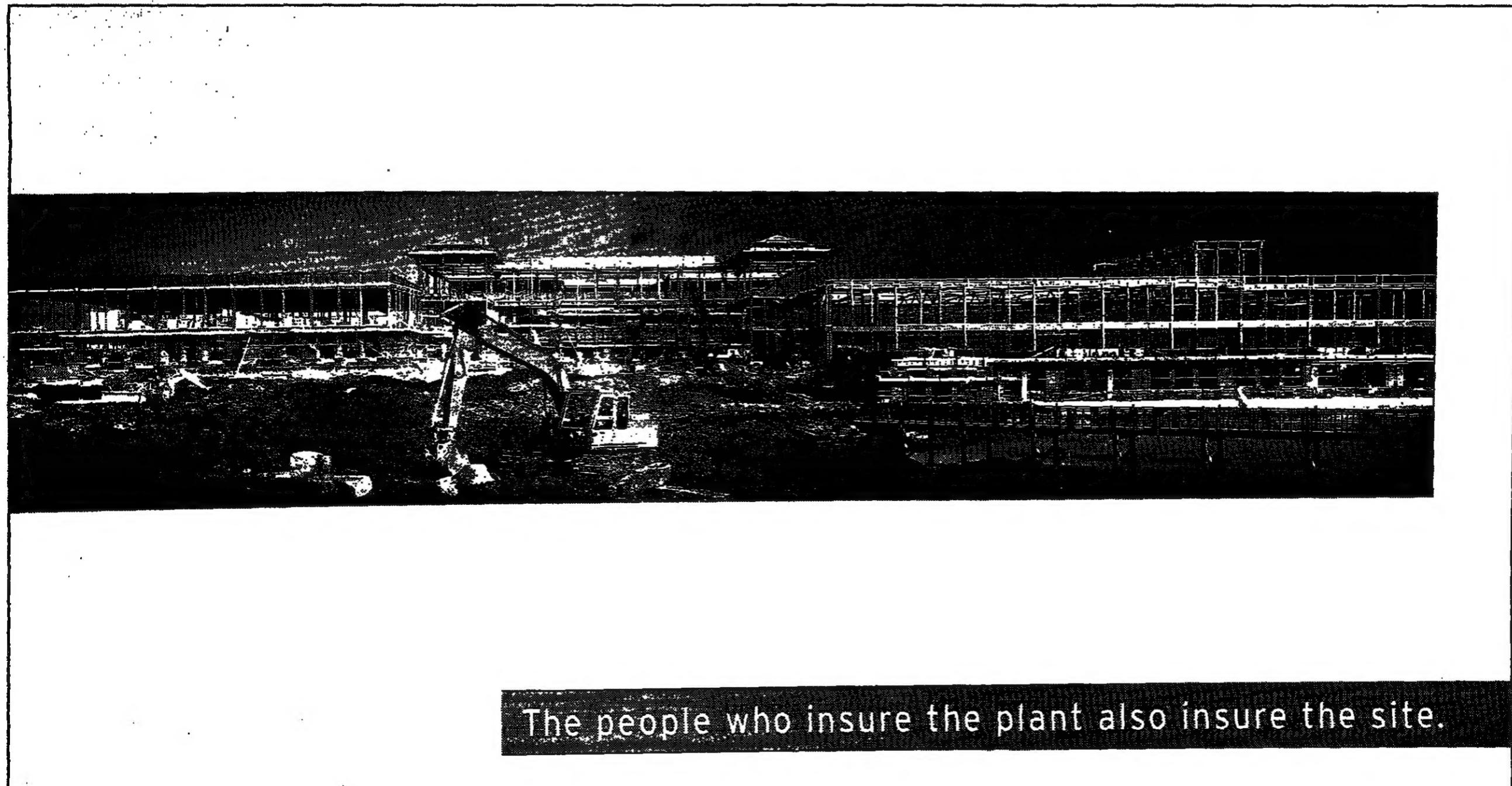
The panel asks William Hague, the Welsh Secretary, to answer its misgivings by ordering an inquiry with powers to compel agencies to explain their actions.

North Wales Police told *The Times*: "Regrettably the Jillings report is seriously flawed through many errors of fact, innuendo, false perceptions and general misunderstandings of procedure. Both the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Police Complaints Authority have publicly expressed their satis-

faction with the thoroughness, impartiality and professionalism of the North Wales Police investigation.

"Where police officers or ex-police officers featured in any allegation, however tenuously, files were referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions and in the case of serving police officers also to the Police Complaints Authority."

The police said seven people were convicted following their investigation, not four as the Jillings Report states.



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# Euro-sceptics court trouble with judgments of Luxembourg

As the beef war drags on and the battle over the EU bogs down in the procedural complexities of qualified majority votes, cow culls and half-empty chairs, frustrated Euro-sceptics will turn their fire towards a more interesting target: the European Court of Justice.

For Tories hunting desperately for European issues which demonstrate that they can influence events and which help wrongfoot Labour, the EU court is a tempting target. Nobody would recognise any of the court's 16 judges in the street: they wear



funny hats which look like upside-down wastepaper baskets and work in Luxembourg. Last Friday, John Redwood referred to the insti-

tution as "a far-away court with way-out views".

With this diagnosis comes a prescription. It is high time, Mr Redwood said, that Parliament asserted its supremacy over the court, adding for good measure that Germany has already done just that. But Mr Redwood and others never reveal that Parliament can only assert such supremacy outside the EU. Well-read though Mr Redwood may be, he has failed to notice that the German supreme court has no general power to overrule the judges in Luxembourg. A look at the *Penguin Guide to*

*EU Law* will set him straight. The House of Commons, theoretically, has the power to stop Luxembourg court judgments in their tracks. MPs could repeal section 21 of the European Communities Act which enshrines Parliament's 1972 decision to allow the EU court certain powers over British law. Alternatively, they could pass a Bill like the one put up by Iain Duncan-Smith, the Tory MP, which simply declares that Parliament can stop any court decision it dislikes. Either way, the effect would be the same. "Cherry-picking" the

more desirable court judgments or blocking them altogether would amount to a frontal assault on the EU with a blunt instrument. The Union was built on rules which bind states.

Although its constitution has evolved as a higgledy-piggledy hybrid, the court and its law were always the most purely federal element in the mixture. States which reject the legal order are pulling out of the club. As the EU judges have already informally warned one Eurosceptic MP, a British govern-

ment obstructing the court will quickly be found to be breaking its obligations under the EU treaty. A political crisis between London and Brussels would follow.

The Cabinet's policy on the court remains quite different from what Mr Redwood wants. But the Cabinet's policy on the court and what Mr Redwood wants remain quite distinct. Informed by eminent critics of the court such as Professor Trevor Hartley of the London School of Economics, and Sir Patrick Neill QC, the Government wants to reform it.

conceding that withdrawal is their aim, but that is where their logic leads.

Mr Redwood's inspiration for an anti-EU Act of Parliament turns out to be Henry VIII, whose *Act in Restraint of Appeals* in 1533 cut down the power of the Catholic Church's courts in England and declared the supremacy of Parliament.

The final result of that conflict is worth recalling. Before long, the English church cut all its ties with Rome.

GEORGE BROCK

## Moscow likely to challenge Nato's expansion plans

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

YEVGENI PRIMAKOV, the Russian Foreign Minister, is expected to denounce Nato's plans to extend membership to Eastern Europe when he meets his Western counterparts in Berlin this week.

Moscow's continuing opposition to Nato expansion has now become such a sensitive issue, particularly with the Russian presidential elections due in two weeks, that alliance foreign ministers meeting in Berlin today are anxious to avoid any confrontation with Mr Primakov.

The Russian Foreign Minister is meeting the Nato ministers as part of the special deal agreed with Moscow, referred to as the "10 plus one arrangement", when security policy issues affecting Russia and the West are discussed.

Nato foreign ministers want to focus the discussion on the shared peacekeeping operation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, where Russian troops are deployed in the north under the tactical command of an American general.

However, Mr Primakov knows that under present planning, Nato governments are expected to announce the next stage of the alliance's expansion plan in December and countries such as Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic could be Nato members before the end of the century.

Last week President Yeltsin declared in his election manifesto that Russia wanted a real partnership with the United States and Western Europe, but that this could be harmed by Nato's expansion plans.

When Mr Primakov raises

the matter in Berlin, Nato will reaffirm the pledge that enlargement will be a transparent process, containing no surprises and with no intention of creating new dividing lines in Europe.

Nato officials are still working on the so-called *Who and Why* report, which will outline in general terms which countries are likely to be eligible for membership and a broad timetable for enlargement. This will follow the *How and Why* report which last year explained Nato's strategy for inviting more members to join the Western alliance.

Fifteen countries have now held individual sessions with Nato, seeking more information on the alliance's proposals. Not all of them are potential future members but the high number of interested nations has underlined that there is now a steady momentum towards Nato enlargement. Moscow will have certainly taken note of this development.

The 15 countries include Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Romania, Bulgaria and Albania.

Nato is not expected to declare the front-runners in December but the way ahead will become clearer. Next year, provided the relevant countries have done enough to democratise their armies and defence ministries, and can show they will contribute to the alliance, not just reap the security benefits, Nato will have to tell Moscow that a number of its former allies

have been approved for eventual membership of the Western alliance.

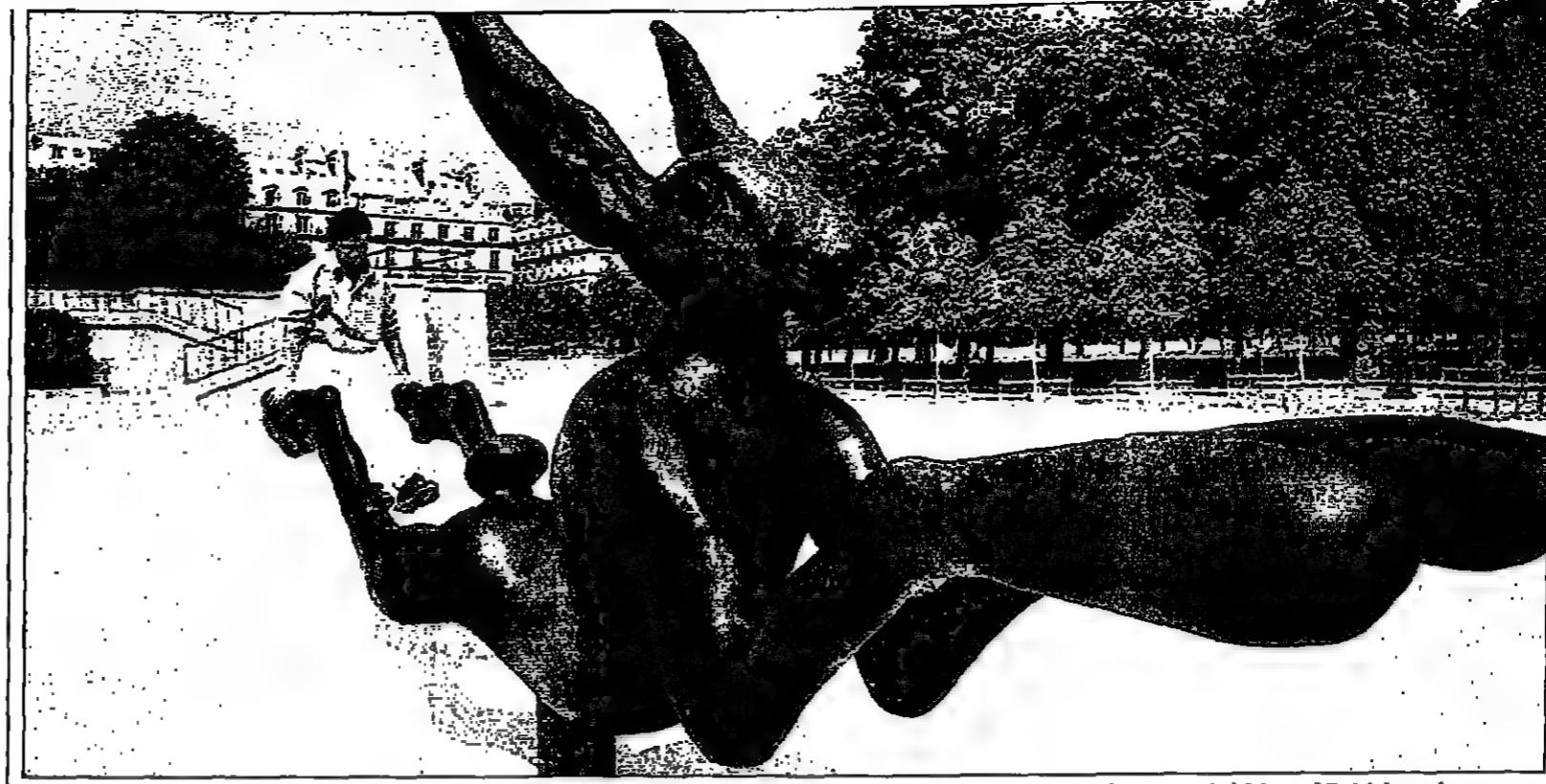
If Mr Yeltsin wins the presidential election, Nato expansion might not remain such a potentially volatile issue. But at today's meeting in Berlin and up to the June election, Moscow is expected to remain bitterly opposed to the idea.

In Berlin, however, every attempt will be made by the Nato foreign ministers to play down the disagreement with Moscow over expansion and to highlight other areas that are less controversial, such as the alliance's reforms and its achievements in Bosnia in implementing the Dayton peace accord.

Javier Solana, the Secretary-General of Nato, said yesterday that the alliance had all but completed a plan that reshapes the organisation for new challenges in the post-Cold War era.

The foreign ministers will approve the new combined joint task forces scheme under which assets of Nato can be used by European members, possibly acting under the aegis of the Western European Union, to carry out peacekeeping and disaster relief operations.

Although there are no plans to replace the Nato force in Bosnia with WEU troops at the end of the year, when the alliance mission is due to end, it is now accepted that a reduced force of some kind will have to remain in the territory to ensure that the ethnic groups do not revert to war.



A visitor to the Tuileries Gardens in Paris swinging on *Jumping Rabbit*, by Barry Flanagan, part of a new exhibition of British sculpture

## Athens tries to mend Turkey ties

FROM RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON IN ATHENS

WHEN the Turkish Government learnt recently that Athens proposed to take foreign journalists in a frigate around the disputed Aegean islets, it immediately lodged objections and organised a rival tour to show journalists how the islets looked from the Turkish side. The incident, typical of the suspicion marking relations between the two countries, did not, this time, lead to the verge of hostilities as a similar journalists' tour did in January. One reason is that in the six months since his election, Costas Simitis, the Greek Prime Minister, has decided that the nationalist brinkmanship of the past could lead to disaster, and has shown a determination to mend the fences battered by his predecessor, Andreas Papandreou.

Mr Simitis has used quiet diplomacy to improve Greece's relations with its Balkan hinterland, repair relations with the European Union, play down Greek antipathy to the newly independent Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, and step back from confrontation with Turkey.

"Nationalism is out of time and out of place," he said, insisting that Greece was ready to take its dispute with Ankara over Imia, an uninhabited Dodecanese islet, to the International Court of Justice. He called for a similar Turkish move, criticising what he said were bullying tactics by Ankara but making it clear that Greece was ready to

accept arbitration. Mr Simitis was attacked by the Opposition soon after coming to office for what it called his lack of resolve in defending Greek interests over the Imia incident. But he said the islands could prosper when they had closer relations with the Turkish coast. "This is not the age of nationalism, of wars, of fights for four square miles. If Turkey has a claim, it should go to the International Court," he added.

The outcome of the Imia dispute will have important repercussions for any resolution on the other main bone of contention between Greece and Turkey: Cyprus.

Mr Simitis made it clear that although Greece does not regard sovereignty in the Aegean as negotiable, he saw no place for the strident nationalist posture taken by his predecessor. "Mr Papandreou has practically left politics. We must adapt party policies because we need no more leaders of this type. Democratic processes must be learned."

He said good relations with Turkey led to good business, and Greece was keen to develop them. However, other Greek Government members were less conciliatory. Theodore Pangalos, the Foreign Minister, accused Turkey of being an empire with an imperial state of mind. He criticised the European Union for trying to "brush aside Greek-Turkish relations in order to give money to the Turks".

### Archbishop wanted on fraud charges

Madrid: Italian magistrates ordered the arrest of the Archbishop of Barcelona, Cardinal Ricardo Maria Carles Gordo, on charges of money-laundering and "complicity in trafficking foreign exchange" (Tunku Varadarajan writes). The charges emerged from a major police investigation into

fraud charges.

**Volcano erupts**

Rome: Stromboli, a volcano that forms a tiny Sicilian island, blasted out thick smoke and lava stones, sending dozens of tourists fleeing down its slopes, officials reported. (AP)

**Time out**

Philadelphia: Firemen used special cutting tools to free Landon Garcia, three, who was locked in a bank vault after wandering in moments before it was time-locked for the weekend. (AFP)

**Fatal attraction**

Los Angeles: An enormous sea lion weighing 1,800lb has become America's most wanted marine mammal after suffocating up to 50 females of its species while trying to mate with them.

## Doyen of diplomacy dispatched to broker Cyprus deal

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU  
IN NICOSIA

BRITAIN, spurred by the "nightmarish" possibility of a divided Cyprus entering Europe, is sending one of its most accomplished diplomats to the former colony today to spearhead London's most determined effort to crack the island's long-running problem.

Sir David Hanney, 60, a former British Ambassador to the United Nations, will be followed in coming months by a stream of other high-

level envoys from the United States, Europe and the UN as the international community launches a concerted diplomatic summer offensive. He was plucked from retirement last month to become Britain's first special representative in Cyprus and has reputation as a formidable diplomat whose patrician air only accentuates his steeliness.

"He is a powerful, straight-talking diplomat," said a European diplomat in Nicosia. "I suppose you could call him Britain's answer to Richard Holbrooke [the American envoy who

brokered the Bosnian peace accords]." But little progress is expected while Turkey, a key player with 35,000 troops in northern Cyprus, is beset by renewed political instability: its right-wing coalition Government is teetering on the brink of collapse.

In Nicosia, Sir David will hold separate talks with President Clerides and Rauf Denktash, the septuagenarian leaders of the rival Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities. The two men are veteran sparring partners who have not

talked directly for nearly two years. But new elements have emerged that have convinced many that there may be a new opportunity to end the island's cold war which has bogged down UN peacekeepers, many of them British, for more than three decades. The most important is Cyprus' looming accession to the EU, which could take place as early as 2000. Accession talks are due to begin early in 1998.

"It is the first time the Cyprus problem has had a deadline of sorts — by 2000 we must at least have

progress towards a settlement," said a European diplomat. Cyprus has been divided since 1974 when Turkish troops invaded and occupied the northern third after a short-lived coup in Nicosia engineered by the military junta then ruling Athens.

Both sides have long accepted UN proposals to reunite the island under a binational federation. But the exact nature of that federation and sovereignty, territory, security guarantees and the return of refugees have bedevilled intercommunal negotiations for nearly two decades.

Czech voters  
in Klaus...

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## Pressure to oust Karadzic mounts

FROM PETER CAPELLA IN GENEVA

FURTHER pressure was yesterday being brought to bear on President Milosevic of Serbia by the United States and its European allies in an attempt to remove Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, from power before elections scheduled for mid-September.

The Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian Presidents were expected last night to endorse a document committing themselves to key elements of the Dayton peace agreement after a series of meetings here with Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State.

Diplomats indicated that the document would not name Mr Karadzic, or the Bosnian Serb military leader, General Ratko Mladic. They believed the key to sidelining the two men was in the hands of President Milosevic.

Mr Christopher said the Bosnian Serb leaders should be put on trial at the International War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague. American officials said they were concerned about Serbia's overall lack of co-operation with the investigation. Several indicted men are believed to be living in Belgrade.

"Serbia is in violation of the Dayton peace accords on war crimes," Nicholas Burns, the State Department spokesman, said. "The rhetoric has been positive, but the actions have been negative." Mr Burns added that the elections should not be held hostage by the Bosnian Serb leadership.

The document was expected to concentrate on three main points ahead of the elections: co-operation with the War Crimes Tribunal, free movement around Bosnia and access to the media. All the parties accepted that polling could not be held in ideal conditions.

"It would not be possible in the next few years to hold pristine, Western European-style elections," Mr Burns said.



The President of Albania denies he is a dictator but says he cannot work miracles in just four years, writes Richard Owen in Tirana

AS ALBANIA voted in a second round of elections marred by violence and fraud, President Berisha yesterday admitted that there had been irregularities and "unfair results". In an interview with *The Times*, he offered to diffuse the national crisis and meet Western concerns by running the polls "wherever it is necessary".

However, Dr Berisha did not specify whether the number of rescheduled elections would amount to the "partial rerun" demanded by the European Union and the United States. So far the electoral commission has ordered a rerun in four seats. But the Europeans and the Americans warned Dr Berisha over the weekend that Albania's relations with the West would "suffer" if democratic norms were not observed.

Speaking in the well-guarded presidential palace, Dr Berisha denied Albania was reverting to authoritarian rule or that he had developed dictatorial habits. He predicted that the Socialist opposition (the former Communists), who marked yesterday's voting with boycotts and hunger strikes, would enter parliament "within six months" to take up the seats they won in the first round a week ago but renounced because of ballot box fraud.

"Some of them have already been in touch with me and are changing their minds," Dr Berisha said. The Socialists are sending delegates to the European Parliament today to press for a complete rerun of the vote. But diplomats said the opposition was as much to blame for the chaos as the Government.

Dr Berisha's ruling Democratic Party won 95 seats in the first round and the Socialists only five. Nine constituencies were at stake yesterday with a further 25 decided by proportional representation. The turnout was low, with only the Democrats and a handful of right-wing groups taking part.

The President, 51, appeared beleaguered and under strain. A dapper former heart surgeon, who led the liberal opposition to the despotic Communist regime as it tottered in 1990, he is admired for his efforts to bring democracy

and a market economy to his impoverished and backward country since coming to power in 1992. He has also helped secure the Dayton peace accord by keeping the lid on tensions in Serb-controlled Kosovo, which is 90 per cent ethnic Albanian.

He has been deluged with criticism at home and abroad after Democratic officials allegedly stuffed ballot boxes to achieve the two-thirds majority Dr Berisha needs to reform the constitution and strengthen the ban on political activity by former officials of the Communist regime (the "genocide law").

The Socialists point out that Dr Berisha was also a Communist, although he says he was always "viewed with suspicion" by Enver Hoxha, the paranoid Communist dictator. The Socialists accuse the President of ordering police to crack down on opposition protests last Tuesday in Tirana's Skanderbeg Square. They have vowed to repeat the protest tomorrow.

Dr Berisha said Albania had "passed the test of history" by overthrowing the Hoxha regime, but he could not achieve miracles in only four years. Democratic values had

been incidents involving "armed people" at the polling stations. But Albania did not have enough trained police to go round, and it took a long time to "develop democratic procedures like those in Britain". Not a single voter had made a formal complaint against uniformed or plainclothes police, he said.

The President admitted that police had overreacted on Skanderbeg Square, but said the Socialists had been told their security could not be guaranteed and had demonstrated in defiance of a police ban. He regretted that opposition leaders and foreign journalists had been beaten, but said all incidents were being investigated. "I have to accept that I cannot expect a British-style police force in four years."

He said the election chaos and the opposition boycott would not affect Albania's pro-market and pro-Western orientation. "We want to join the West, and we will keep going in that direction until we have our place in Europe," Dr Berisha said.

Dr Berisha alleges ballot fraud by opponents



Ilie Nastase emerging from a polling booth after casting his ballot yesterday

## Nastase set for mayoral win

FROM SEAN HILLEN IN BUCHAREST

ILIE NASTASE, the former tennis star, was poised yesterday to beat 46 others in the race for Mayor of Bucharest.

But the Romanian millionaire and former playboy may not secure the 51 per cent vote to win on the first ballot. A run-off will be held on June 16.

Mr Nastase was among the first of the candidates to vote yesterday. "I feel quite confident. I look forward to helping

put Bucharest on the international map," he said.

Mr Nastase said he hoped to bring "much-needed foreign investment and a positive image" to the capital, plagued by poverty, rising unemployment and an image of AIDS and orphans. His campaign, under the slogan "An honest man", is supported by the ruling Social Democratic Party. To appeal to the youth vote,

he promised to bring pop stars such as Michael Jackson and Jon Bon Jovi to Romania.

Victor Ciorbea, his closest rival, from the Democratic Convention, accused him of being "a mere front for a neo-communist government". He said Mr Nastase dined well in Paris, where he has a home, while Romanians fought to overthrow Nicolae Ceausescu, the Stalinist dictator.

## Chechen accord at risk as fighting resumes

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

THE peace initiative in Chechnya, a key component of President Yeltsin's re-election platform, was in deep trouble at the weekend after clashes between Russian troops and Chechen rebels shattered a fragile truce.

With only two weeks to go before the Russian presidential elections, the agreement to halt fighting, free prisoners and demilitarise the war-torn republic appeared to be in tatters after both sides accused each other of violating the terms of the deal.

In the single worst incident, four Russian soldiers were killed and five injured after their armoured personnel carrier was hit by a remote-controlled mine in Grozny, the Chechen capital, yesterday morning. On Saturday, the day the peace accord was supposed to go into effect, 26 Russian troops were captured southwest of the capital. Their fate was still being negotiated yesterday.

"I state with full responsibility that I will order troops to destroy, resolutely and with hatred, all those bandit groups who do not want peace," said General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, the Russian commander in Chechnya. For their part, the Chechen rebel leadership

St Petersburg: Turnout was low yesterday as voters in Russia's second city went to the polls to elect a mayor in a litmus test of public opinion before the presidential election. The incumbent, Anatoli Sobchak, whose supporters back President Yeltsin's nationality, was challenged by Vladimir Yakovlev, a virtual unknown who is allegedly pro-Communist. (AFP)

claimed that the Russians had provoked them by massing troops around the rebel stronghold of Shali, arresting ten Chechens and threatening to attack. In a statement issued by their defence council, the separatists warned that unless a final agreement on the withdrawal of Russian forces from Chechnya was completed within a week, the guerrillas would respond with "adequate measures".

Latest opinion polls published at the weekend showed the Russian leader consolidating his lead over his only serious challenger, Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader. The poll by the CESSI institute, published in the *Moscow Times* newspaper on Saturday, showed President Yeltsin with a comfortable 32.6 per cent and Mr Zyuganov with 19.7 per cent.

However, a renewed crisis in Chechnya could lose the Kremlin leader the crucial support of the remaining undecided voters. Yesterday efforts were underway to get the peace talks back on track and bring the Russians and Chechen rebels to the negotiating table for a meeting scheduled this week in the neighbouring republic of Ingushetia.

## Czech voters lose confidence in Klaus market reforms

BY ROGER BOYES

VACLAV KLAUS, the Czech Prime Minister and the most determined free marketeer in post-communist Europe, seemed yesterday to have lost his parliamentary majority after a surprisingly large number of voters opted for a softer version of reform.

Mr Klaus made a rather dazed appearance yesterday after initial counts indicated his centre-right coalition had won only 99 of 200 seats. Mr Klaus — a Eurosceptic disciple of Margaret Thatcher — had been tipped to win the election, held on Friday and

Saturday. Under Mr Klaus's policies, the Czech Republic had bucked the trend in Central and Eastern Europe towards the return to power of post-communist parties. Mr Klaus's Civic Democratic Party remains the largest with almost 30 per cent of the vote. But his junior coalition partners — the Civic Democratic Alliance and the Christian Democrats — were battered badly. The second-largest party were the opposition Social Democrats under Milos Zeman, an economist. They won around 26 per cent

## UN plans for world of the megacity

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN ISTANBUL

ARCHITECTS, planners, government ministers and Third World lobbyists today begin the most ambitious conference yet convened on how to curb the growth of cities and stop the future megapolis of 20 million people collapsing into squalor, poverty, crime, disease and homelessness.

Habitat II, the ten-day United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, will offer developing countries, overwhelmed by the rush to big cities, blueprints on how to provide cheap and safe housing, clean water, jobs and a habitable environment. The latest figures show there are about 500 million urban homeless and that over the next 30 years urban populations will double to five billion.

Opening the conference, Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN Secretary-General, will tell ministers from more than 150

nations gathered here that housing is a basic human need. The world's urban population is growing more than twice as fast as the rural population, and disease and poor sanitation in sprawling slums are killing ten million people a year.

Wally N'Dow, the conference secretary-general, said that in the next 25 years, Cairo, Lagos, Shanghai, Bombay, Jakarta and Mexico City would be most at risk from inadequate drinking water and sewage systems. He said even cities in richer countries, such as Cardiff, Houston, Warsaw and Tel Aviv, will face shortages.

The UN estimates that more than a billion people now cannot get clean drinking water. Every day two million tons of human excrement and an increasing volume of untreated industrial effluents pollute urban water supplies.

Water-borne diseases kill four million children a year.

The conference, 20 years after the first

Habitat gathering in Vancouver, will call on all countries to make housing and sanitation a priority. For the first time it

lays less emphasis on state intervention

and urges governments to form partnerships with the private sector. It insists that non-governmental organisations have key roles to play in planning cities.

The draft communiqué does not con-

demn urbanisation, noting that even

slum-dwellers are still better off than the

rural poor. Britain and America, among

most Western nations, do not want any

language that links improvements in

Third World megacities to financial

obligations by them.

Leading article, page 21

Work smarter  
not just harder



# North sabotages Republican bid for Senate seat

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

OLIVER NORTH, the controversial figure at the heart of the Iran-Contra scandal, returned to haunt the Republican establishment yesterday when he abandoned his official neutrality in the Virginia Senate race and denounced the party's candidate a week before the state primary.

In a vitriolic speech to thousands of cheering activists in Salem, Mr North accused John Warner, the patrician senator once married to Elizabeth Taylor, of an "unconscious" and "blasphemous" betrayal of the former Marine Lieutenant-Colonel's own unsuccessful attempt at the Senate in 1994.

"Whose side are you on?" demanded Mr North of the Warner campaign as he endorsed Jim Miller, the radical former Budget Director for President Reagan. No Republican senator for Virginia has ever before faced a challenge from within his party, but two

years ago Mr Warner did what many conservatives considered was the ultimate act of treachery: he refused to support Mr North's bid to unseat Charles Robb, Virginia's Democratic Senator.

Although Mr Warner has the support of the party establishment, including Bob Dole, the presidential nominee, George Bush, the former President, and General Colin Powell, a Virginia resident, the Right has been waiting to exact its revenge.

The Christian Coalition, the National Rifle Association and other hardcore activists had been hoping that Mr North, now a populist radio talk-show host, would back Mr Miller. In a single stroke, he has now altered the dynamic of this year's race, brought a much-needed injection of funds to the impoverished Miller campaign and effectively cast it as a sequel to his own candidacy. Hugging Mr

Miller on stage, he said: "We need a senator who's going to put principle above politics. We need a senator who is going to back our party and every nominee at every level."

Mr North brought the Reagan Administration to its knees after his role in the Iran-Contra arms-for-hostages scandal. He admitted he had lied to Congress. In 1991, a conviction against him was overturned on a technicality.

□ Notes missing: Days after claiming that all legal documents relating to the "Travelgate" affair had been handed over to Congress, the White House has admitted that certain notes are missing (Tom Rhodes writes). The notes provide a record of a meeting two years ago between presidential aides and members of the Justice Department and General Accounting Office which involved the firings of seven staff of the White House travel office in 1993.

The London to Los Angeles Flight 007 was four hours old when an American passenger had a heart attack. The pilot made at once for the nearest airport: tiny Iqaluit on Baffin Island, 1,000 miles north of Montreal and a place where reindeer roam but humanity maintains an uncertain grip on the chilled, treeless land.

The Boeing 747 made a safe landing, but when taxying to a

halt its wing struck a fuel pipe and was too badly damaged to permit continuing to Los Angeles.

The accident was put down to the fact that big jetliners are rarely seen at Iqaluit and the airport ground staff may have misjudged the size of the plane. The nearest standby plane was half a day away, so the 368 passengers had little option but to alight and acquaint themselves with a region explored in 1576 by Sir Martin Frobisher and 40 years later by William Baffin.

Prince Michael managed to get himself on to a small commuter plane which was

departing for Montreal. There was no such option for the other Virgin passengers, who included the pop singer Gary Barlow of Take That, so they wrapped themselves in blankets to stave off the Arctic winds and headed for the hotspots of Iqaluit (population: 3,700 — mostly Inuits, or Eskimos). The sun did not set until after 11pm, so there was plenty of time to look around.

While the heart attack victim was rushed to a local clinic, the other passengers visited the Pizza Igloo restaurant, stared at the icescape, played housey-housey and watched reindeer.

The local radio station used its initiative and invited some of the passengers on to a talk show. Paul Colella, a passenger from Scottsdale, Arizona, said: "The local were wonderful. All four blocks of them."

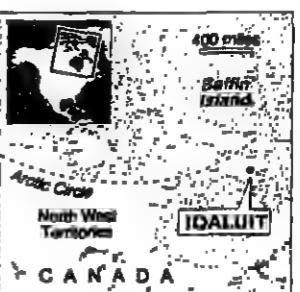
Rhonda Sampson, an Iqaluit emergency services worker, said yesterday: "We get a few Hercules transporter planes here, but never jumbo jets. This will be something to tell the grandchildren about." She added that the Royal Bank had set up an emergency exchange and that the local traders were "very happy" at

the extra business which had fallen their way.

Iqaluit residents were yesterday still amusing themselves with the memory of the Virgin refugees walking down the main street wrapped in the bright airline blankets.

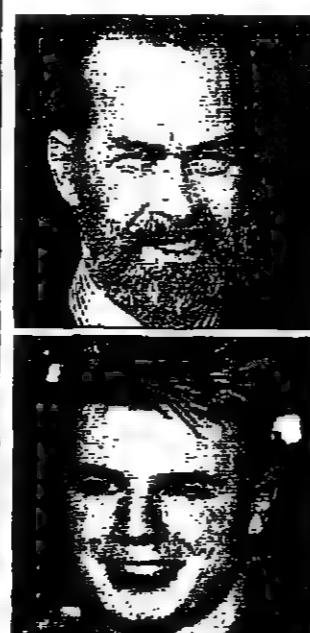
The town's barracks provided beds for passengers who wanted to rest and other passengers were offered accommodation by townsfolk. Davidee Joanie, supervisor of the Royal Canadian Legion Hall, set up a fuzzy drinks stand and opened his games room. "It was like local pay-day," he said.

After 15 hours a chartered jet took the passengers away, flying to New York where connections to Los Angeles were made.



## Jet stranded among Eskimos

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK



Prince Michael of Kent and pop singer Gary Barlow had an unscheduled air stop at Baffin Island when a fellow passenger had a heart attack

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# The lowdown on high society

Offs aren't going to disappear. Nancy Mitford may have been right to compare a modern aristocracy to a chicken whose head has been cut off. "It may run about in a lively way," she said, "but it is, in fact dead." But there will always be rich aristocrats, whatever Tony Blair might do to the House of Lords.

On the other hand, glance down the guest list of London's swankiest salons, and of the poshest enclosures during the coming Season, and you'll see that not only are the new meritocrats flooding over the drawbridge — David Bailey, Mick Jagger and the whole Sixties crowd have been doing so for years — but they may now have taken over the castle once and for all.

In the past couple of years, the Sandfords and the Bristols and the Brookes, let alone Fergie, formerly HRH, (or just "vulgar, vulgar, vulgar" as Lord Charteris, the Queen's former private secretary, called her), may have tipped the scales in favour of the new ruling class.

Whereas, once, talent was a passport to join the bluebloods at the top table, it is now the *ancien régime* who are eager — actually, even rather grateful — to be invited to rub shoulders with cockney

cleverdicks like Greg Dyke, Michael Caine and Kate Moss. You only had to watch Prince Albert and Princess Stephanie of Monaco competing for the 1996 World Music Awards last Monday to see who had the upper hand: then again, their dad married a Hollywood star.

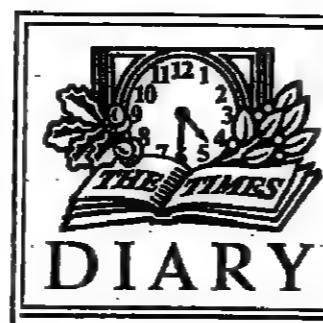
No doubt — if the cover of *Paris Match* is anything to go by — most French people would prefer to be guided by Johnny Halliday than by anyone else.

Here in Britain, many people would be very happy to be ruled by Richard Branson — and that's not just Branson's view, it's what opinion polls have found.

Actors, top lawyers, models, television chat-show hosts, newspaper editors, pop stars, architects, photographers, film directors: all are more sought after by modern society or the corporate host than some chap who has a handle, even an inheritance, and nothing else.

Two centuries ago Lord Chesterfield could boast to the House of Lords: "We, my lords, may thank heaven that we have something better than our brains to depend on." Today it sounds like a line from a *Spitting Image* script.

Dyke, Sir Norman Foster, the Michaels Jackson (both BBC2 Controller and ashed-faced pop singer), Michael Mansfield, Naomi Campbell, Martin



## 90s guide to HIGH SOCIETY

DAY 1

Amis, Joanna Lumley, Jeremy Isaacs, Tom Stoppard, these are the new elite. Today, Quentin Tarantino is far more hip than any tiara. Hellol would rather be invited into the gracious home of Liam Gallagher than into the wood-panelled drawing room of some little-known marquess.

"The stately homes of England, How beautiful they stand," sang Noel Coward, "To prove the upper classes. Have still the upper hand." But have they?

Only pop stars and soccer stars can afford to keep up a large stately home nowadays without having paying visitors trampling around the grounds on Tuesday and Saturday afternoons to help to finance the roof repairs (although the

new ruling class is already drawing up its own rules of admission).

You won't find the weekend queues outside the gates of aristocratic National Trust estates. You'll find them outside restaurants like the Hard Rock Café, Planet Hollywood and Fashion Café.

"The whole notion of hereditary distinction has become a lot more suspect than at any time this century," says David Cannadine, Professor of History at New York's Columbia University and author of *The Decline And Fall Of The British Aristocracy*, a book that provoked shucks on Britain's grouse moors.

"In any generation there have always been a certain number of aristocratic dilettantes. What is different is the

public response to that. A lot of people are asking: What are hereditary titles for? If you're Mick Jagger, you've no particular desire to be 'Lord Rolling Stone'. Compared to being a famous rock star, a British peerage would seem rather a trivial and parochial recognition."

Even the aristocrat's divine right to behave like a twit has been usurped. Lord Glasgow famously flung a warden through the window of his club and then barked: "Put him on the bill." The "Mad Marquis" of Waterford once thought it amusing to put a donkey into a stranger's bed at an inn, and he liked to pass a dull afternoon by shooting at the eyes of family portraits. Now any second-rate rock band or cult actor does more damage to their hotel room.

So what does Tony Benn, who saw the writing on the wall and relinquished his title of Viscount Stansgate, think now that the rest of the world has caught up with his meritocratic outlook? "Aristocrats were either robbers or they inherited or they were the king's favourites," he huffs. "It's only in Britain that these absurdities continue to exist."

But wasn't he a bit of a toff himself once? "I wasn't! My dad was a Labour MP who was made a lord by Churchill and Attlee. It's all crap."

P.H.S.  
MAGNUM

150 من الأعلى

## POLITICS: THE MOVERS AND THE LOSERS

### THE MOVERS

Michael Heseltine  
The Deputy Prime Minister is the ultimate mover and shaker. He oversees, from his grand suite in the Cabinet Office, every aspect of government policy and enjoys unrivaled access to the Prime Minister.

Sir Robin Butler

The Cabinet Secretary since 1988, and Whitehall's most senior civil servant.

Murdo MacLean

A name virtually unknown outside Whitehall but known by everyone who matters within it. As private secretary to the Government Chief Whip he is "the usual channels" which keep Parliament running.

David Willetts

The brightest member of the 1992 intake of Tory MPs, he is the brains behind Michael Heseltine in the Office of Public Service.

Peter Mandelson

A creator of new Labour, he promoted its leading exponents to stardom: Tony Blair and Gordon Brown. Mandelson, the MP for Hartlepool, the black prince of political spin-doctors, is Blair's most important adviser.

Gavyn Davies

A partner in Goldman Sachs and a multimillionaire, he is the unofficial chief economics adviser to Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor. His wife, Sue Nye, runs Brown's private office.

Maurice Saatchi

The advertising genius who helped Margaret Thatcher to three election victories is back with a prominent role advising John Major how to win the next one. Has a hotline to Major.

Sir Tim Bell

Came to prominence in Saatchi & Saatchi in the late 1970s and is one of Britain's leading PR men in his own right.

right at Lowe Bell Communications. He is working with John Major because he believes that Britain has to be protected from Labour.

Peter Gammer

The third member of the advertising troika. He is the chairman of Shandwick, Britain's largest public relations company, and worked closely with Saatchi and Sir Tim on the advertising campaign.

Lord Irvine of Lairg

The Shadow Lord Chancellor is a successful barrister, and one of Tony Blair's mentors.

Audi Hunter

Head of Tony Blair's private office and one of the most



Heseltine: power broker

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Audi Hunter

Head of Tony Blair's private office and one of the most

influential women in the Labour Party.

Jonathan Powell

Chief of staff to Tony Blair; was a high-flying diplomat in Washington. His elder brother was foreign policy adviser to Margaret Thatcher.

Lord Cranborne

Leader of the Lords, ran John Major's successful campaign against John Redwood. He is heir to the Marquess of Salisbury and is part of the Cecil dynasty, one of the grandest political families in history.

Lord Holme of Cheltenham

Still the leading fixer in the Liberal Democrat Party. He was the *éminence grise* behind not

### THE LOSERS:

Virginia Bottomley

The first woman to join John Major's Cabinet but after an unhappy spell at Heath she was one of the first candidates for the axe. Unkind souls suggested she survived the last reshuffle only because Major could not be seen to dump a woman from his male-dominated Cabinet.

Harriet Harman

Hated by the Labour Left. She survived in the Shadow Cabinet because Blair decided not

### MUSIC: RISING

Daniel Harding

conductor, Evelyn Glennie, percussionist, Joanna MacGregor, pianist, Nicholas Kenyon, director of the Proms.

### ARTISTS: RISING

Damien Hirst

Rachel Whiteread, Leon Kossoff, Peter Maxwell Davies.

### FALLING

Nigel Kennedy

Vanessa Mae, Sir Peter Maxwell Davies.

### ARTISTS: FALLING

Frankie Dettori

jockey, Stephen Hendry, snooker

## THE ARTS: RISING AND FALLING

### THEATRE/FILM RISING

Emma Thompson, actress, script-writer.

Mike Leigh, writer-director.

Pierce Brosnan, actor.

Richard E. Grant, actor.

Ralph Fiennes, actor.

Christopher Hampton, writer-director.

Declan Donnellan, director.

Helena Bonham-Carter, actress.

Max Stafford-Clark, director.

Sam Mendes, director.

FALLING

Daniel Day-Lewis, actor.



Rising star: Helena Bonham-Carter

### THEATRE/FILM LOSING

Emma Thompson, actress.

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Sam Mendes, director.

FALLING

Daniel Day-Lewis, actor.

## SPORT: PROMOTIONS AND RELEGATIONS

### PROMOTIONS:

Nick Faldo, golfer.

Paul Gascoigne, maverick footballer.

Eric Cantona, footballer of the Year.

Frank Williams, Formula One top team leader.

Laura Davies, golfer.

Ron Gullit, Chelsea's Dutch manager.

Michael Atherton, England cricket captain.

Steve Redgrave, Olympic rower.

### RELEGATED

Graham Kelly, chief executive of the FA.

Alex Ferguson, manager of Manchester United.

Bernie Ecclestone, Formula One supremo.

Maurice Lindsay, chairman, new rugby Super League.

Craig Reedie, chairman, British Olympic Association.

Jonathan Edwards, triple jumper.

Frankie Dettori, jockey.

Stephen Hendry, snooker

### player.

Glen Hoddle, next England football coach.

Sir John Hall, Newcastle's benefactor.

Phil de Glugville, Bath rugby captain.

Cliff Brindle, champion of amateur rugby.

Graham Thorpe, cricketer.

Terry Venables, England football coach.

Barry Hearn, sports agent.

RAY HILLINGWORTH, England cricket chairman.

Will Carling, England rugby captain.

Linford Christie, Olympic athlete.

Sally Gunnell, Olympic athlete.

Andy Cole, footballer.

Frank Bruno, heavyweight boxer.

Willie Carson, former champion jockey.

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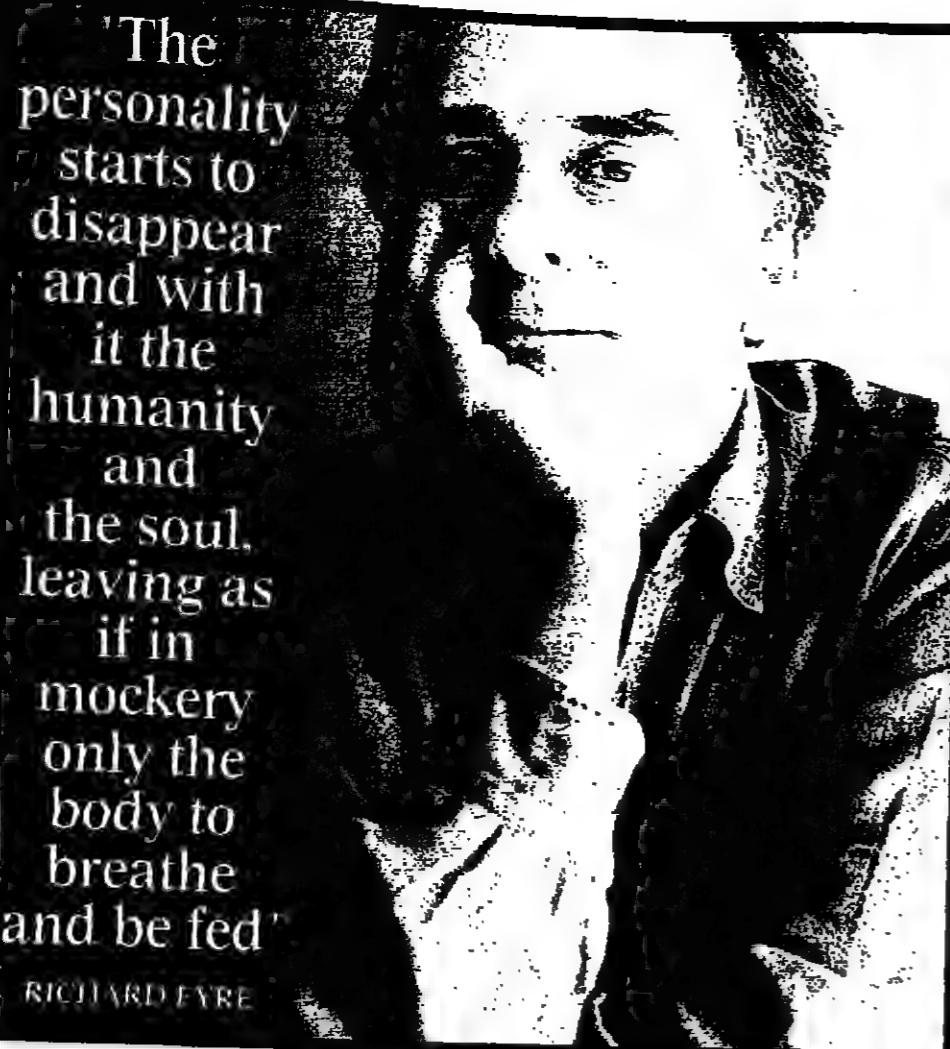
Sally Gunnell, Olympic athlete.

Andy Cole, footballer.

Frank Bruno, heavyweight boxer.

Willie Carson, former champion jockey.

# Alzheimer's: the carers' story



The personality starts to disappear and with it the humanity and the soul, leaving as if in mockery only the body to breathe and be fed

RICHARD EYRE



Richard Eyre's mother

When she was 52 my mother fell downstairs on her head carrying my sister's daughter. The baby, who was two at the time, was unharmed, but my mother fractured her skull. The fracture healed and at first it seemed as if the only further damage was to my mother's nervous system. She lost her sense of smell and her sense of taste and, naturally enough, her skill and enthusiasm for cooking.

But then, little by little, other things dropped away. She started to forget her previous sentence halfway through the new one, and she would stare speculatively at her knife and fork as if unsure of what to do with them.

She started to cry in frustration when she forgot how to write the M in her Christian name, Minna; and when she took my daughter, aged four, to the village shop, a journey of a few hundred yards, my wife thought it safer to follow them as the two set off hand in hand, chattering simultaneously, uncertain who was leading whom.

For a while it seemed as if her behaviour was a painful plea for attention, and with the arrogance of self-interest I constructed a rational cause for her illness. I wanted it to be a psychological disorder rather than a corrosive physical decay of the brain. I wanted to believe that there was a reason for it; that she had been ignored and rejected by my father.

I wanted her illness to serve my cause, but when I opened a door for her and she stared at the door, then at the doorway, and asked me with undisguised terror, "Which side do I go?" I knew she was losing her mind, and that there was no one to blame except God.

## THE URGENT NEED FOR FUNDS

- Alzheimer's disease is the most common single disease in the UK, with an estimated 600,000 sufferers.
- The disease can strike as early as 30, with 17,000 current sufferers in the 17-30 group.
- Only £10 per sufferer is currently spent on research, compared with £475 per cancer sufferer and £15,000 for AIDS victims. The Alzheimer's Research Trust aims to build Europe's first multidisciplinary research

centre dedicated uniquely to finding a treatment. While recent research has successfully identified some of the causes, scientists at the pioneering centre will dedicate themselves solely to understanding the disease. So far, the trust has raised enough money for a site and building but still needs a further £1 million to equip and staff the centre. It is putting its hopes on a major fundraising drive to be highlighted on Alzheimer's Research Day, on June 5.

## How an actor did his homework

THE veteran actor Peter Vaughan first came into contact with Alzheimer's about 12 years ago when his wife's aunt was diagnosed with it.

"She confided in me about how she couldn't remember things. She told me how frightening it was not to know what she'd been doing over the previous day, having no memory of where she had been or what she had done."

I sympathised, of course, but I never quite realised the full extent of the problem. But then came the repetition of phrases ... she kept saying something about "a rail ticket home" over and over again.

Gradually the disease worsened until she couldn't remember anything. There can be no mistaking its cruel progression, and soon you come to realise just how distressing it must be for those who have undertaken to care for someone suffering from Alzheimer's. One hears of cases where sufferers do



Peter Vaughan: insight

things like put kettles on without any water in them or wander out into the dead of night inadequately clothed. It not only puts them at great risk but also causes untold stress to those who take care of them.

In the BBC2 television serial, *Our Friends in the North*, my character is cared for by his long-suffering wife. But he makes it enormously difficult for her, mainly because of his increasingly obsessive behaviour which leads to a violent attack. Finally their son persuades her to have him placed in a home.

When I was offered the part of Felix Hutchinson I contacted the Alzheimer's Centre near my home in Crawley, Sussex. There the principal, the head social worker, all the nurses and carers were wonderfully generous to me and allowed me free access. I attended a remedial class, sat in on meals and talked with the sufferers.

Interview by  
Liz Van Den Nieuwenhof

I came downstairs to find Ma fiddling with her wireless. "Shall I put on the news?" asked. "No, darling, I'm trying to get a bit of toast."

Senile dementia, pre-senile dementia. Alzheimer's ... whatever. It matters little to the carer. The patient is what is known as "confused". That is a euphemism.

My mother was always a delightful source of barty stories, with the glorious gift of enjoying her own mistakes. She would put a packet of tights in the fridge and find the bacon in her underwear drawer among presents bought for last Christmas.

A very long time ago, I forgot where I'd parked the car and in a private panic threw out all our aluminium cooking pans. "Aluminium at that time was thought to be one possible culprit." When we still have our wits about us, we can transform such episodes into high comedy, and use it to avert the mundane and deflect our family's irritation.

There are those who leave us without our detailing them; we have said all there is to say. It wasn't so with her: there was a continent of regret and guilt. I can still hear her voice, even though it's hard to remember her face as it was before she lost her mind. I can still see her hand, bony like a claw, plucking at her face, as if she was surprised that it was still there.

When I was a small boy I'd sit by her dressing-table to watch her as she did her make-up. "I'm putting on my face," she'd say. When she died her body was like a child's.

• Richard Eyre is director of the National Theatre

I have been told that the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia can be confirmed after death only by examining thin slices of the brain. It's a horrid thought, but I hope someone, somewhere is doing a lot of slicing.

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• Richard Eyre is director of the National Theatre

I have been told that the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia can be confirmed after death only by examining thin slices of the brain. It's a horrid thought, but I hope someone, somewhere is doing a lot of slicing.

Senile dementia, pre-senile dementia. Alzheimer's ... whatever. It matters little to the carer. The patient is what is known as "confused". That is a euphemism.

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I suppose she died about five years later, two years after my stepfather. I kept notes. Some funny, some not. One day I have written the single word "agony" in block letters. On May 22, 1992, I wrote: "Had a good howl this morning. I am a useless nurse." May 25, another howl. "Can't cope with confusion. Need to be more creative about it." May 26, "Good day. Megsie sat in garden this am in her curlers to dry her hair, charmingly got up in nightie and dressing gown. Suddenly she asked what time it was. 12 o'clock, I said. 'Take my curlers out.'

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## ■ OPERA

The Russians are coming: Gennadi Rozhdestvensky conducts *Onegin* at Glyndebourne  
OPENS: Friday  
REVIEW: Monday



## ■ BOOKS

A hell of an act to follow: Peter O'Toole writes the second part of his autobiography  
IN THE SHOPS: Now  
REVIEW: Saturday



## ■ POP

You don't have to be Irish: Sting heads the bill at the Flea in Finsbury Park, London  
GIG: Saturday  
REVIEW: Monday



■ MUSIC  
A recital by the great Welsh soprano Dame Margaret Price opens this year's Aldeburgh Festival  
CONCERT: Saturday  
REVIEW: Next week

# Looks aren't everything

These have not been happy times for The Cure. *Wild Mood Swings*, the group's first new album since 1992, has been greeted with a metaphorical shrug of the music industry's shoulders. Yes, they are still around; yes, they still make good music; so what else is new? After an initial Top Ten placing, the album has dropped to the bottom reaches of the chart after only a couple of weeks.

Then there is the matter of their mysteriously vanishing tour. To begin with, two concerts were postponed

because of "technical difficulties". Then Robert Smith contracted a sinus infection which affected his hearing and balance, and another five shows were promptly rescheduled for December, leaving just two dates, at Earls Court. What was supposed to have been a triumphant finale to the tour on Friday became instead a tentative opening night, while the second show, on Saturday, was distinctly undersold.

Still, as we heard often enough when Oasis managed to string together two nights at Earls Court last November, it is the biggest indoor venue in Britain. And, unlike Oasis, who simply transplanted their bar-band act to a bigger stage and turned up the volume, The Cure know what it takes to put across a performance on such a cavernous scale.

For a start, they dressed the stage to dramatic effect. Decorated at the sides by a looping stretch of rail from a fairground rollercoaster ride, and by heavy drapes that looked like trees fluttering behind, the somewhat nightmarish landscape was overseen by a huge furred canopy and lighting rig arrangement. The vague impression that it might represent the underside of a giant arachnid was bolstered when sinistrous legs

unfurled like telescopes during *Lullabye*, the song about being eaten by a spider.

They opened the show with the long, meandering intro to *Want*, during which massive cathedrals of light played across the stage, the dense washes of colour being given a physical presence by thick clouds of dry ice. Many of the numbers were beautiful simply to look at, none more so than *From The Edge Of The Deep Green Sea*, during

which a green mist was penetrated by hundreds of pencil-thin bolts of white light, then consumed by a rolling cloudbank of majestic purple.

As in the past, various changes of personnel since the group last played have not had the slightest effect on The Cure's look or sound. So, with Perry Bamonte (guitar), Roger O'Donnell (keyboards) and Jason Cooper (drums) maintaining a completely static and anonymous presence, the onus of presentation, as ever, fell squarely on the shoulders of Smith, with some assistance from roving bass guitarist, Simon Gallup.

With his curiously anorexic voice and distinctively stiff guitar playing style, Smith stamped his idiosyncratic mark on the show well enough, but seemed generally ill at ease. "We usually make our mistakes in front of fewer people than this," he said towards the end of the evening, having earlier complained about missed lighting cues and other apparent shortcomings.

Whatever the technical imperfections, their biggest problem was the overall pacing of a set which generally avoided the "greatest hits" and emphasised the new material, but failed to gather sufficient momentum to hold the attention over a two-and-a-half-hour span. The positioning together of two very slow

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songs, *Treasure* and *Bare*, close to the end was not a good idea, although a first group of encores, including *Friday I'm In Love*, helped to retrieve the situation. Yet more encores

followed, this time a bunch of ancient songs, including *Killing An Arab* and *Boys Don't Cry*, their first and second singles respectively. So much has changed recently, but not

The Cure, and neither old songs nor new could mask the impression that this just wasn't their moment.

## DAVID SINCLAIR

Schofield, or in the latter's second feature, a moving, hushed threnody for the composer's drug-addicted brother, Andy.

True, the composition's closing movement, the Betts-inspired *Dispelling the Fears*, in which two trumpets bravely emoted over a slightly sinister, brooding orchestral backdrop, did strike a hopeful, even tentatively redemptive note, but, overall, such structural felicities were perhaps less important to the composition's triumphant success than Turnage's chief gift: the ability to produce wonderfully imaginative, innovative music which draws quite naturally and unconsciously on the broad range of contemporary sources which he has so thoroughly and tellingly assimilated.

## CHRIS PARKER

Thus the visceral impact of Bacon's

the concert of the fact that Turnage had gone to painters Francis Bacon and Heather Betts, poet Langston Hughes and even Frankfurt's red-light district for inspiration; although such artistic and social references helped to locate the music, even ground it emotionally, what impressed was simply the startling originality and irresistible energy of Turnage's composition and the infectious enthusiasm of the musicians — particularly featured drummer Peter Erskine.

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painting was reproduced not only by its namesake, the first of the composition's nine sections — an eerie, shouting, woody howl punctuated by splash-and screams from wind and brass — but also by the trombone-centred *Cut Up*, in which Turnage demonstrated that Mingusian rumbustiousness is not the exclusive property of jazz big bands. The drug-addiction theme, too, was not allowed to overpower the music, either in *Needles*, a sinuously funky theme that might almost have been written by its featured soloist, guitarist John

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## LIGHTING THE TORCH

A spectacular summer of sport will soon be with us

Of all mankind's great inventions, few have succeeded in capturing the imagination more than sport. This summer witnesses a spectacular pageant, especially for those fortunate enough to live on these islands.

Besides the regular glories of Test matches, Open golf and of course Wimbledon, England has Euro 96, the largest such event to be organised in this country for 30 years, while Atlanta, Georgia, will host the centenary Olympics. These will be blessed by the largest number of events, countries, competitors and television viewers in the history of that quadrennial gathering.

For us, then, this may literally be the greatest summer of sport we will ever experience. All of this is very appropriate. Games of differing sorts have been around for at least 60 centuries. The ancient Egyptians probably invented them — although there is a case for the Chinese. The Greeks certainly first organised them, and the Romans made them a public spectacle. Yet it was largely the British during the 19th century who codified most of what are now the most popular sports and games.

Our passion for detailed legalism strikes many outside our shores as curious, given our failure to apply it to other issues such as a national constitution. Nevertheless, it was only through the application of agreed rules that international competition was made possible. So it is no idle nationalist boast to suggest that sport today is a British export.

The fascination for human beings of such efforts is also apt. For while the word derives from the act of abandoning serious activity for pleasurable pastime, that notion of "sport" is misleading. The desire to compete, the urge to perfect, and the will to triumph over present opponents and past performances, are in microcosm the story of our species on its journey from the caves to the cosmos.

Sport is compelling because it says so much about people. The Greeks understood

and encouraged that, which is why they held the original Olympiad in 776 BC. Time may have passed but that message remains true, captured in its diverse means from the village green to the London Marathon.

The European championship of football will be the focal point this month. It brings back memories of 30 years ago when England staged and won the World Cup in a final so thrilling that Alf Ramsey blurted out to reporters that he was "over the moon" — a phrase subsequently immortalised.

But the Wembley win that year was just part of a wonderful sporting show that included a dazzling West Indian cricket team, an elegant Manuel Santana's Wimbledon title, and a first Open golf championship for Jack Nicklaus. Similarly, Euro 96 will be as much curtain-raiser as main performance in the unique festival we are about to witness.

The emphasis should be placed on the "we", for in modern times that phrase "the season" really refers to a long summer of sport that can be enjoyed by all rather than a narrow and exclusive set of events that were more social than sporting. The Atlanta Olympics alone will be broadcast to some four billion televisions across the globe.

Stand by then for this grand sporting summer. As trailer for what is to come, *The Times* today produces a 24-page supplement for the European championship among 41 pages devoted to sport — a record in itself, at least for us. We will seek to do justice to the many momentous months ahead in our coverage. Sport is for people; that is its greatest strength. For all the often expressed concerns about money and professionalism, its appeal remains based on simple but enduring and important values. The power to amaze, entertain and inspire still lies as much in participation as personal victory, and in our varying ways we can all take part. Let the games begin.

## TOWARDS A HABITABLE HABITAT

The world is looking for a solution to megalopolis

The United Nations is most effective when it operates by persuasion and consensus. Its most durable achievements in the past decade have been not in peacekeeping or the imposition of sanctions but in its conferences on the themes that lie at the heart of global order: the environment, human rights, population, poverty and the position of women.

The first of these, the Rio environment conference, is having lasting effect; almost no government now takes decisions on pollution, industrial activity or the destruction of rainforests without reference to the Rio agenda. The resolutions of the Cairo population conference are also shaping better policies throughout the developing world. The UN is now turning its attention to housing. The Habitat II conference opens tomorrow in Istanbul and promises to be as contentious and as productive as Rio or Cairo.

The world's cities are growing by a million people a week. But despite investment in urban infrastructure, more than two thirds of city populations live in substandard housing, and at least 600 million people live in squalor, with polluted water, bad sanitation and no privacy. Cities, nevertheless are powerful magnets. They are sucking in at an increasing rate the rural poor who can still earn more in towns and have access to jobs, healthcare and education. In the next 20 years the megalopolis of 20 million people or more will become a familiar pattern in most continents: Greater Tokyo, at 28 million, will remain the largest conurbation.

How to prevent these cities becoming vast sinks of pollution, unregulated, unorderly and unproductive, will be the main issue in Istanbul. Architects, planners, local authorities, population experts and lobby groups

will be there in force, each putting forward Utopian schemes to relieve poverty or guarantee roofs over heads. The conference should listen to all, and adopt the policies of none. There is no single blueprint for regulating man's oldest social instinct, the building of communal dwellings. Cities evolve; they cannot be decreed or destroyed. What the UN can do is provide a databank of best practice. It can guide governments, help planners and clarify issues. It should steer clear of the kind of dirigiste interventionism that ruins initiative and politicises everything the UN touches.

Politics, nevertheless, will not be far away. Wally N'dow, the Habitat secretary-general, says the conference will not divide along North-South lines because the problems of cities are common: even in richer cities, there are pockets of deprivation. His optimism may be misplaced. The big argument will be over the demand for housing to be declared a human right. The poorer countries will insist that all people are entitled to shelter; the richer countries will ask who is to pay for this right. Is the State to be the provider? Should housing be publicly financed? Is shelter the right of every refugee?

There will also be arguments over "sustainable development", and whether this would be better described as "sustained economic progress". There will be arguments over limiting migrants to cities, building on agricultural land, the role of local authorities and financial resources. These arguments should be aired; they cannot be resolved. The world is not looking for a packaged UN declaration, but for fresh ideas on how cities can remain habitable, safe and dynamic in the future.

## SLEAZE, CONTINUED

Private lives today affect public credibility, alas

Another day: another Tory sleaze scandal. Rod (erick) Richards, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Welsh Office, resigned his junior office yesterday as soon as the *News of the World* published its exposure of his affair with the (female) former publicity chief of the National Canine Defence League. So formulaic has the damage-limitation in such cases become that the customary exchange of hypocritical letters between the Prime Minister and the peccant minister was deemed unnecessary.

Can public lessons be drawn from this private tragedy? Mr Richards was one of that threatened species, a Welsh Tory MP; but few outside the Principality were aware of his existence. He was that even rarer breed, the last Welsh-speaking minister. The Prime Minister will have difficulty in finding a replacement before the election. He must hope to persuade Sir Wyn Roberts, the longest-serving minister in the same department this century, to return as night-watchman.

Mr Richards became known as John Redwood's rottweiler when the latter was Secretary of State for Wales, because of his partisan bark and bite. With the tabloids reputed to be paying big money for sexual secrets, and with modern surveillance techniques having become so sophisticated, the former Marine showed himself less prudent than even a rottweiler to let himself be so entrapped by camera and quote. The present Government is probably no more sexually immoral than its predecessors. But the tide of the times and the challenge of its

"back to basics" rhetoric militates against it. In the past it was a key task of the whips to watch the behaviour of junior ministers. Hard-working, middle-aged men, too often away from their homes, are subject to temptation. And ambitious politicians have a sex drive that is quite disproportionate to their sex appeal. But once a quiet word, a single-paragraph resignation note made sure that the pain was kept a purely private matter. During John Major's Government, in which the Whips' Office seems to be less well informed than the newspapers, private pain has too often been played out in public.

In the latest scandal, Mr Major's swift action has stanchéd a political haemorrhage and shown that he can be a man of decisiveness who can act with due ruthlessness to see off trouble. Loyal Tories must dearly wish that he had shown the same forcefulness in earlier sex scandals. Others may wish that a minister could insist that his private life was private. Mr Major's procrastination over his friend David Mellor and a series of other tawdry affairs enabled Labour to pin on this Government the charge of being ineffectual and seedy.

By moving with such speed Mr Major has ensured that Mr Richards will, within a few weeks, return to deserved obscurity. Labour will try to launch a few rockets about sleaze. But they will soon be seen as irrelevant to the political questions of the governance of Wales and the entire United Kingdom. Mr Major has acted. If only he had shown such determination in the past.

## Aid to Burmese people

From Baroness Cox and Dr Martin Panter

Sir. We applaud your leader of May 21 on Burma and agree with Nicholas Meller (letter, May 31) on the need to monitor foreign investment in that country. But in view of the Burmese authorities' appalling record of human rights violations, we would urge even further measures.

Having had the privilege of working with the Karen and Karen people on the Thai-Burmese border, we have seen and shared some of their great suffering, especially during the past 18 months since the fall of the Karen headquarters at Manerplaw. resulting in the displacement of some

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### Brussels reaction to beef reprisals

From Mr Ian Flintoff

Sir, "Cohorts of Eurocrats must be smirking behind their hands," Simon Jenkins writes of the "beef war" — with, I fear, much understatement. This is one more in a series of what has been regarded as anachronistic crowning by British governments. I was with the European Commission in the 1970s when James Callaghan came over to insist on "renegotiating the terms of British entry" (into the then EEC). This time-wasting and fruitless exercise took many months during which, indeed, the scoffing and derision in corridors and offices were uncontested.

I was also in Brussels when the gunboats were being dispatched to fight a war in the South Atlantic. Again, rightly or wrongly, non-British compatriots looked at each other with the wildest of surmises and asked me which century my country thought it was living in.

But the beef war surely takes, as it were, the biscuit. Unfortunately, I suspect this parade of national retardation may make Britain so much the fool and patsy of Europe that our reputation will take several decades to recover.

Yours sincerely,  
IAN FLINTOFF  
(Spokesman's Group,  
European Commission, 1973-76),  
22 Chaldon Road, SW6.  
May 29.

From Mr A. J. Morgan

Sir, I cannot accept Simon Jenkins's arguments. British beef was banned in Germany and France because consumers wanted it to be banned, not for competitive advantage. If there had been widespread BSE in France, French beef would have been banned here, to general applause.

The United States and other English-speaking countries banned British beef seven years ago, without, of course, eliciting protest from the Europhobes.

Yours etc.  
A. J. MORGAN,  
20 Recrory Road, SW13.  
May 29.

From the Spokesman for Agriculture, European Commission

Sir. *The Times* reported in its lead story on May 30, "Brussels hits back against British veto", that compensation to farmers for falling beef prices has more cash to German and French farmers than to British farmers whose herds have been most affected — an assertion which "provoked the fury of Conservative Eurosceptics".

This report is misleading in three ways: first, it fails to make it clear that the figures quoted represent only the minor part of a total proposed package of £520 million, out of which the UK will receive £85 million.

Secondly, markets throughout the EU have been hit by the BSE crisis, some far harder than in the UK. Because of the general fall in prices, this new support package has been broadly divided according to the size of the beef herd in each country. The UK has 14.5 per cent of the beef herd and will receive 16 per cent of the money.

Thirdly, the report failed to mention EU support for the UK for measures taken to remove animals over 30 months from the food chain. The EU is funding 70 per cent of the compensation for British farmers, at a cost of some £120 million this year, and £240 million a year thereafter. Support of this magnitude is not available to any other member state.

Yours etc.  
GERRY KIELY,  
Spokesman for Agriculture,  
European Commission,  
Rue de la Loi 200,  
B-1049, Brussels.  
May 31.

Bullfighting

From Mr Richard G. Coleman

Sir. Today you published a picture of Cristina Sánchez, the Spanish bullfighter, and the bleeding bull she is about to kill. You mention the acclaim of the crowd.

I find all this horrifying. One more act of wanton cruelty is being added to the gloomy catalogue of violence in our modern world.

Sincerely yours,  
RICHARD G. COLEMAN,  
52 Falstaff Avenue,  
Earley,  
Reading, Berkshire.  
May 27.

### Penal philosophy for 21st century

From Professor Sedgwick McConville and others

Sir, On April 10, 1995, you published a letter from us marking the centenary of the report of the Gladstone Committee on Prisons, urging an inquiry on the scale of the Gladstone inquiry, "to propose a sound and authoritative penal philosophy for the 21st century" — in short, a royal commission on crime and punishment. Little, if any, political attention was paid then or since, either to the centenary or to the proposal for an inquiry.

In the intervening period, however, events have repeatedly emphasised the need for an authoritative and deliberate review of our criminal justice and penal systems. An unprecedented, publicly conducted argument between the Home Office and the higher judiciary over sentencing policy has gone on unabated (letters, May 20, 24 and 27).

On May 23 the retiring Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth, initiated a Lords debate on government proposals, as outlined in the White Paper, *Protecting the Public*. In his recent speech to the Prison Reform Trust (report, May 10) the Archbishop of Canterbury, speaking with great moral authority and drawing on extensive pastoral experience of the prisons, emphasised the need for a proper balance within the penal system between the various purposes of punishment.

In a pre-election period there must now be grave concern that consideration of criminal and penal policy will stray even further from the course recommended by the Archbishop. Over the last two decades the United States

has shown the tragic and counter-productive results of mixing competitive party politics with such policy debates and thereby inflaming public prejudice. This is a field where the national interest demands that bipartisanship should be striven for, even while legitimate party differences are debated.

It is essential to safeguard criminal and penal policy from such dangers, by providing a mechanism to address these important issues, dispassionately, authoritatively and constructively. It is time for a royal commission.

Yours faithfully,

SEAN McCONVILLE,  
ALLEN OF ABBEYDALE  
(Permanent Under Secretary,  
Home Office, 1986-73),  
LOUIS BLOM-COOPER  
(Member, Home Secretary's Advisory  
Council on the Penal System, 1966-78),  
ANTHONY E. BOTOMS  
(Wolfson Professor of Criminology,  
University of Cambridge),  
RALPH GIBSON  
(Lord Justice of Appeal, 1985-94),  
JOHN K. HARDING  
(Chief Probation Officer, Inner London),  
JOHN HUNT  
(Chairman, Parole Board for  
England and Wales, 1967-74),  
TERENCE MORRIS  
(Professor Emeritus, Criminology and  
Criminal Justice, University of London),  
BRENDAN O'FRIEL  
(Chairman, Prison Governors'  
Association, 1990-95),  
RUNCIE  
(Archbishop of Canterbury, 1980-91),  
University of London,  
Queen Mary and Westfield College,  
Faculty of Laws,  
Mile End Road, E1.  
May 31.

### Lessons on marriage and family life

From the Bishop of Hull

Sir, Cardinal Hume has rightly called for "greater public investment in education for relationships and parenting" (letter, May 28).

I recently entered this debate with a suggestion that parents should be offered double child benefit for a year on their first child if they avail themselves of parenting classes. The positive response I have received shows a new public mood that politicians would do well to heed in preparation for a general election.

We need a renewed taxation and benefit system that encourages parents to take responsibility for the moral and emotional development of their children.

Yours faithfully,  
JAMES HULLEN,  
Hullen House, Woodfield Lane,  
Hesle, North Humberside.  
May 29.

From Mr Mark Mullins

Sir, There can be few if any who do not share Cardinal Hume's desire to

find practical and effective ways to support marriage and family life.

A start might be to refer to the Ten Commandments where we read that adultery is one of the forbidden actions of mankind. Surely nothing is as destructive to marriage and family life as adultery.

Traditionally the law has acknowledged this and admonished adulterers by making it a clear statutory ground for divorce. Is it not a retrograde step to remove any concept of fault from divorce law in these circumstances?

Further, is it for us as a society to tolerate what God does not? As Sir Paul said: "The law is our schoolmaster to bring us to Christ" (Galatians, iii, 24).

Surely the preferable course is to strengthen the laws of the land to realign them with the laws of scripture.

Yours faithfully,  
MARK MULLINS  
(Barrister-at-Law),  
Cavalry and Guards Club,  
127 Piccadilly, W1.  
May 28.

### Church property

From the Chairman of the English Clergy Association

Sir. Your report (May 24) of the sad arrest of an official of the London diocesan fund is somewhat confused about church property. The diocese does not own the vicarages of the parishes of London. Most of them are owned by the parson in his corporate capacity, effectively as a trustee for the benefit of the parishioners.

The confusion easily arises since, when there is no vicar (even if there is a priest-in-charge), the diocese may sell the parsonage and profit by the proceeds. The guardianship of the diocese was originally intended to prevent the parish from selling the house to its advantage.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN MASDING, Chairman,  
The English Clergy Association,  
Hamstead Vicarage,  
840 Walsall Road, Birmingham 42.  
May 24.

### Lottery and architects

From the President of the RIBA

Sir. In his article of May 28, "Windfalls for advisers", Jon Ashworth suggests that most architects will gain a windfall fortune from lottery projects. Certainly a few will work hard over a number of years to earn relatively large fees from the small number of large projects, but the vast majority of architects involved in lottery application projects are in more danger of losing money than of winning a small fortune.

Also, we have obtained much evidence of systematic violations of human rights being perpetrated by the

A great deal of work by architects in preparing lottery applications is free or at cost, based on gaining the commission if the bid is successful. A recent RIBA survey showed that 47 per cent of architects working on lottery projects are doing so unpaid and that as



## OBITUARIES

## IVAN SUTTON

Ivan Sutton, MBE, founder of the City Music Society, died on May 27 aged 81. He was born on December 27, 1914.

ACCORDING to *The Times*' review of the City Music Society's 50th anniversary concert in November 1993, Ivan Sutton was as important to the musical life of the City of London as Sir Christopher Wren was, in his time, to its ecclesiastical architecture. For over half a century Sutton, the self-effacing elder statesman of the British music establishment, ran the City Music Society, promoting concerts at Bishopsgate and Goldsmiths' halls where he introduced a host of musicians to City audiences.

A regular fixture at the capital's other concert halls, Sutton would offer friendly, paternal and sound advice to anyone in the music industry — performer or administrator — who sought it. A less obvious impresario would be hard to find.

Ivan James Sutton was a tall and elegant figure, slightly reduced by a scholarly stoop. His great-grandfather had founded the famous garden seed company in Reading and his father was a tea and coffee merchant in the London docks. After an unhappy time at Sevenoaks School — not then renowned for its enlightened approach to the arts — Ivan joined the family firm as what he later called "an embryo tea taster" at the age of 18.

In his early twenties he spent a year in virtual isolation because of tuberculosis. He was introduced to the world of music by a wind-up gramophone alongside his hospital bed and particularly adored the pianist Eileen Joyce's recording of the Liszt Scherzo as well as Rachmaninov's Second Piano Concerto. He later said of his lengthy convalescence "had time to read, to read and to think."

Back in the family firm, but unwell enough to see wartime service, he passed many lunch hours at the famous concerts organised by Dame Myra Hess in the National Gallery. These were the inspiration for his future endeavours.

In 1943 Sutton founded the City Music Society on the basis of enthusiasm, members' subscriptions, administration fees and a small contribution from



the City of London Corporation. Its principal purpose was to promote lunchtime concerts in the winter months. Putting this in context Sutton once explained: "It was at a time when there were few concerts, the BBC Third Programme had not been created, nor was the long-playing gramophone available. The Queen's Hall had been destroyed and the South Bank had yet

to be built".

Artists who over subsequent years were offered this prestigious showcase form the backbone of the music industry today. The Takacs Quartet — whom he helped enormously — the Lindsay Quartet, the cellist Steven Isserlis and the pianist Stephen Kovacevich were just a few. Jacqueline du Pré played there early in her career as did the Amadeus Quartet. Dame Margaret Price and Dame Janet Baker sang to City music lovers at Sutton's

behest and, of a now more distant generation, Elisabeth Schumann sang there. On another occasion Francis Poulenc appeared at the keyboard.

Across town the Wigmore Hall proved a source of inspiration to Sutton, and even in old age he could regularly be seen shuffling into that hallowed venue of chamber music. He also became a regular visitor to the Interforum Festival in Hungary bringing back pianists of the calibre of András Schiff, Zoltán Kocsis and Dávid Ránki.

For many years the role of impresario was a part-time hobby. But one wet Monday morning in the early 1960s, Sutton's secretary said to him: "I think you are more interested in music than tea." The comment provoked much soul-searching and eventually Sutton sold the family company in order to promote concerts for Trust House

Hotels. Sutton's wife Dorothy, whom he had married in 1940, proved the perfect hostess for these occasions.

The greatest coup of that time was undoubtedly when he secured the rare services of the Russian pianist, Sviatoslav Richter, for a concert at the Swan Hotel in Lavenham.

The opportunity to be artistic director of the City of London Festival came his way in 1981 and he relished the prospect of organising concerts in such a marvellous selection of buildings as exist within the Square Mile. He also enjoyed a stint programming for the London Symphony Orchestra.

Sutton's own musical tastes were catholic. He particularly enjoyed the late Beethoven quartets, as well as jazz and piano recitals, although he found Bartók difficult to bear. Under Sutton's aegis, the City Music Society regularly paid for new commissions from contemporary composers. He said: "What we do is write to our members telling them we're commissioning a new piece and would they like to contribute. And they do."

The number of people who discovered a love of music, and the number of artists who were discovered, through Sutton's concerts are immeasurable. More than anything else, the knowledge that others came to appreciate such beauty made him genuinely happy. His anecdotes of missing instruments and missing musicians, re-collected with typical English reserve, are legendary within the industry.

One particular favourite of his was the story of when only two members of a string quartet turned up for a concert at Goldsmiths Hall. He said: "I was as perplexed as they were, until the other two rang from Goldsmiths' College in Lewisham." On another occasion, when the pianist Shura Cherkassky demanded a piano on which to practise during the interval of a concert, Sutton hurriedly arranged for him to use the instrument in a nearby pub — much to the bemusement of those popping up the dingy bar.

Ivan Sutton was appointed MBE in 1964. He is survived by two daughters and a son. Mark, who is a classical record producer and Professor of Music at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

## TAMARA TOUMANOVA

Tamara Toumanova, ballerina and film actress, died in Los Angeles on May 29 aged 77. She was born near Tyumen, Siberia, on March 2, 1919.

TAMARA TOUMANOVA was regarded by the Western world, throughout the 1930s and 1940s, as the supreme example of the Russian ballerina. Her reign was only really over when the arrival of the Bolshoi and Kirov companies, in the 1950s, revealed new styles and inspirations. Becoming a star while barely in her teens, Toumanova epitomised all the glamour of the Ballets Russes.

She could scarcely have had a more sparkling professional debut. In January 1932 a new ballet company assembled in Monte Carlo to fill the gap left in the artistic world by Serge Diaghilev's death. Members of Diaghilev's former company and revivals from his repertoire formed the nucleus of the venture. But George Balanchine, as principal choreographer, insisted on recruiting three very young dancers he had found in the ballet schools of Paris.

They and their teachers were all Russian émigrés. Toumanova and Irina Baronova, both pupils of Olga Preobrazhenska, were 13 years old. Tatiana Riabouchinska was 15. All of them were given leading roles straight away. This was a gift to publicists who dubbed them the Baby Ballerinas (a phrase Toumanova came to hate "like a toothache").

That first season she had parts created for her by Balanchine in the poetically mysterious *Coriolan*, the character comedy *Concurrence* and his adaptation of Molière's *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*. Leonide Massine used her as the spinning top in his *Jeux d'enfants*. This last named role gives a clue to one



of the attributes that made Toumanova enormously popular with audiences: a technique far stronger (even at that young age) than they were used to seeing. She — and Baronova likewise — had a prodigious command of "fouettes", those revolving steps which, generally repeated 32 times on the spot, are guaranteed to bring tumultuous applause.

But Toumanova never relied only on her bravura technique. She was admired for her lyricism, too, her charm, and her exotic Georgian beauty. She had huge eyes and an almond complexion framed with raven hair. She had, incidentally, the rare gift of completely symmetrical features. Some photographers enjoyed drawing attention to this by picturing her with a mirror.

She had been brought to France as a child when her parents fled Russia after the Revolution. Her father was a colonel in the White Russian Army, and Tamara was born when her mother, a Georgian princess, was trying to rejoin him. Trapped by snowy weather in Siberia, she was sheltered by Kazakh soldiers in the box car of a railway train and gave birth there. It took 18 months before she found her husband in Vladivostok and they set out for Shanghai, Cairo and eventually Paris.

There the little girl at four and a half began dancing classes with the great Preobrazhenska, former prima ballerina of the Maryinsky Theatre. Tamara actually appeared in Paris on two occasions before Balanchine engaged her: first as a tiny tot of about five who was given the Polka solo at a Red Cross Gala organised by Pavlova, and then at ten at the Paris Opéra in *L'Eventail de Jeanne*, a ballet danced by

Toumanova. Tamara was a hard worker. Her father made her

study music, literature, history and maths for fear that her passion for dance would make her ignorant of other matters. He was very much head of the close family, although "mama" Eugenia Toumanova was the one who became famous as the archetypal ballerina mother — fiercely protective of her daughter's welfare against any perceived slight, but in private warning her of faults in her performance.

When Balanchine, after only one season, left the Ballets Russes to form his Ballets 1933, Toumanova went too. She described him later as the most important influence and guide in her career: not a Svengali but a guardian angel who taught her the beauty of simplicity and how to "be my own best self".

w Whisfield and Ninebanks (Newcastle).

The Rev Brian Blackshaw, Assistant Priest, St Anselm, Hatch End (London): to be Vicar, Cheshunt (St Albans).

The Rev Canon Leslie Brooks, Vicar, Carleton and East Hardwick: to be an Assistant Priest, with permission to officiate in Ripponden, Wensleydale and Barkisland w West Scammonden (Wakefield).

The Rev John Clark, Rector, Tavernham w Ringland (Norwich): to be Vicar, All Hallows, Ipswich (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

The Rev James Gosling, NSM, Victoria Dock, St Luke (Chesterfield): to be Hon. Curate, Great Mongham w Ripple and Sutton by Dover and Northbourne, Bexleyheath w Ham (Canterbury).

The Rev Peter Craig-Wild, Vicar, St John's, Chapeltown (Sheffield): to be Vicar, St Mary's, Mirfield (Wakefield).

The Rev Alan Cunningham, Vicar, Trunch Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-charge, Lyng, Sparham.

The Rev Judith Hampson, Curate, Alnwick: to be Vicar, Alnwick.

## Church news

The Rev Brian Blackshaw, Assistant Priest, St Anselm, Hatch End (London): to be Vicar, Cheshunt (St Albans).

The Rev John Clark, Rector, Tavernham w Ringland (Norwich): to be Vicar, All Hallows, Ipswich (St Edmundsbury and Ipswich).

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The Rev Alan Cunningham, Vicar, Trunch Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-charge, Lyng, Sparham.

The Rev Judith Hampson, Curate, Alnwick: to be Vicar, Alnwick.

The Rev Peter Denyer, Vicar, St Peter, Monkseaton (Newcastle): retired February 29.

The Rev Canon Joan Collinson, Team Vicar, Epiphany Team Ministry, in charge of St Hugh, and Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands (Newcastle): retired May 6.

The Rev Peter Dunlop, Vicar, St Peter, Monkseaton (Newcastle): retired February 29.

The Rev Walter Goudry, Vicar, St Bartholomew, Benton (Newcastle): retired February 6.

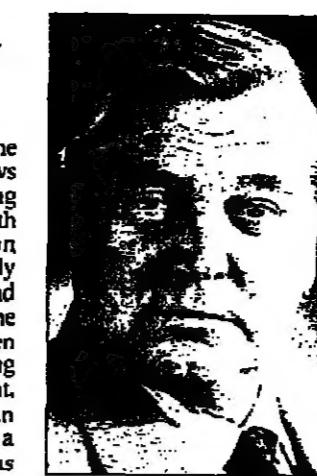
The Rev Michael Johnson, Chaplain, Pilgrim Hospital, Boston (Lincoln): resigned May 1.

The Rev Philip Knights, Team Vicar, Cowley Team Ministry (Oxford): resigned April 30.

The Rev Colin Scott, Vicar, Longhoughton w Boulmer and Howick (Newcastle): retired April 30.

## IVOR MILLS

Ivor Mills, news broadcaster, died on May 30 aged 66. He was born on December 7, 1929.



IVOR MILLS presented the early evening weekday news programme on ITN during the late 1960s, alternating with his colleague Gordon Honeycombe. Subsequently he was moved to the weekend news. His time at ITN came during a period when anchormen were becoming celebrities in their own right, and Mills received more fan mail than most. It was a strange sort of fame, as he was the first to admit.

Mills was a handsome man, dark-haired and with luxuriant sideburns. However, his ease and charm in front of the camera may eventually have told against him. In 1972 he and his mustachioed colleague Rory MacPherson were returned to general reporting duties. The popular press decided that they had been discriminated against for being too handsome and, therefore, "lightweight". In fact Mills was a well-read, musical man, and ITN described the move as merely in line with its normal policy of diversifying the talents of its staff.

One particular favourite of his was the story of when only two members of a string quartet turned up for a concert at Goldsmiths Hall. He said: "I was as perplexed as they were, until the other two rang from Goldsmiths' College in Lewisham." On another occasion, when the pianist Shura Cherkassky demanded a piano on which to practise during the interval of a concert, Sutton hurriedly arranged for him to use the instrument in a nearby pub — much to the bemusement of those popping up the dingy bar.

Ivor Sutton was appointed MBE in 1964. He is survived by two daughters and a son. Mark, who is a classical record producer and Professor of Music at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

into reporting for Ulster TV, and made a name for himself as an interviewer. He was not afraid of stirring up a little controversy. In 1963 he wrote to Harold Macmillan, inviting him to come and be interviewed before a local audience on the subject of Northern Ireland's desperate economic plight. The Home Office was not enthusiastic about this sort of direct request, which it felt should have been made through the proper channels. Sharp letters were sent to Sir Arthur Kelly, the Stormont Cabinet Secretary, and Macmillan remained in London.

In 1965 Mills joined ITN as a reporter and two years later began his period as chief anchorman of the early evening news programme. He approached his work professionally, but never took his sudden rise to fame too seriously.

He covered a broad range of subjects as a reporter, including the terrible effects of the new drug thalidomide. As an interviewer, he displayed enviable talents. He would calm a

nervous subject by making a little joke. Pompous politicians were put in their place by the assumption of an even more formidable expression.

Mills belonged to a more convivial era in journalism and broadcasting. He did not believe in rushing back from a good lunch if there was no particular reason. His best friend at ITN, and occasional tennis partner, was Reggie Bosanquet.

He stayed with ITN until 1978. He then moved to the Post Office, where he had already built up a freelance career advising senior managers on how to prepare themselves for the harrowing ordeal of the television interview. His brief as head of public affairs was to build up a unit capable of fielding the increasing volume of inquiries from Parliament, the CBI and politicians.

This coincided with the start of the move to split the telecommunications side of the business from the nationalised industry. It was an intense and rocky period. British Telecom needed a lobbying presence in Parliament, and Mills headed that team. In 1981, when BT was officially launched, Mills also took on the mantle of deputy director of corporate relations. The first tranche of BT shares was sold to the public in 1984, and Mills retired four years later.

He had not been in the best of health for some time. He was diabetic, and was further debilitated after being hit by a motorcycle five years ago.

In 1956 he married Muriel Hay, a concert pianist. The marriage ended in divorce in 1987. He is survived by their son and daughter.

## LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER GEOFFREY HODGES

Lieutenant-Commander Geoffrey Hodges, GM, specialist in mine disposal, died on May 6 aged 87. He was born on September 8, 1908.

IN THE early years of the Second World War Geoffrey Hodges was a member of the "suicide squad", a group of only about a dozen men who had been trained in the skill of deactivating mines. The Admiralty urgently needed to learn about the different types of mine that the enemy was employing and whenever an unexploded mine was found, Hodges and his colleagues at Winchelsea College. He was a fine athlete and cricketer but his special interest was in remedial work. Coaching pupils initially completely uninterested in physical activity, he would turn our accomplished athletes.

Hodges joined the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve at

the beginning of 1939 and on the outbreak of war was promoted to lieutenant. He never rose above this rank during the entire time that he served, largely perhaps because his invaluable experience in mine-disposal and minelaying rendered him more useful "at the sharp end", as he used to put it, than in any more exalted position. Indeed, when he was appointed to HMS Vernon for inspection. However, when the report of his heroic task was made Hodges was caught up in a bit of much-needed sleep and, because he was unable to tell his part in the story, the two officers of his support party were awarded the DSO, while he was not. He never quite got over the injustice.

His sea appointment had come through during the early years of the war. He spent a

time in HMS *Tevioet Bank* as minelaying officer before becoming torpedo lieutenant on *HMS Abdyl*, one of a new class of specialised fast minelayers with the ability to maintain a speed of 36 knots over a lengthy period and thus to reach further into enemy waters than had previously been believed possible.

Of the four ships in this class, two were sunk early on *HMS Abdyl*, after many hazardous months minelaying and ferrying troops in the Mediterranean and Middle East, was sent to take part in the capture of Taranto. There, in the harbour, she too struck a mine and, breaking up, she was sunk in less than a minute and a half. A third of the ship's company was lost, and a quarter of the soldiers on board. Hodges was left mortally scarred by the experience. But he was mentioned in dispatches for his contribution during this commission.

His appointment to Southwick House followed, but when, after D-Day, the staff transferred to France, Hodges was posted to the last remaining fast minelayer, *HMS Apollo*, where he served two final commissions. The first was to Russia, where he laid deep minefields to protect convoys from submarine attack. The second was to restore Crown Prince Olaf of Norway to his country at the end of the war. Hodges met with a rapturous welcome, and received many kisses on his neat red beard from enthusiastic Norwegian women.

At the end of the war Hodges, with the retiring rank of lieutenant-commander, returned to Winchelsea College, retiring only in 1968. He had for many years been a prison visitor and immediately took up the post of organising tutor at Winchelsea prison. It was only in 1993 that he sat down to look at the detailed diary he had kept throughout the war and turned them into his memoir *Of Mines and Men*. His wife Evelyn died in 1991. He is survived by a son.

## ON THIS DAY

June 3, 1941

It is well to be reminded that London was not by any means the only target in the Blitz

through an opening where it was found that one nurse was trapped by her arm. With the light of miners' lamps he administered an anaesthetic to the severely injured young woman and amputated her arm on the spot. Soon afterwards she was got out, but the shock and her injuries proved too much, and she died within a few minutes. Another nurse was extricated after being buried for nearly 12 hours. She is a first-year probationer at the hospital and her home is at St. Asaph. She was uncon-

scious when rescued, and the matron told a reporter that she would have an immediate blood transfusion. "She is suffering badly from shock, the effect of many hours' burial under the heavy debris, and from cuts and bruises," the matron added. Four of

## NEWS

### Minister resigns over love affair

A junior Tory minister was forced to resign over allegations that he was having an extramarital affair.

The abrupt departure of Rod Richards, a minister in the Welsh Office, immediately reopened allegations of sleaze in Tory ranks which the party has tried hard to dispel over the past few months. Since a series of private-life scandals it has been a clear if unwritten rule that members of the Government caught out in this way must go immediately. Page 1

### Mobile phones 'carry cancer risk'

Five million people in Britain could be at risk from developing cancer or asthma by using mobile phones. Some scientists believe the threat is so great that they have stopped using the phones. It is feared that the microwaves transmitted by mobile phones could be damaging brain cells. Page 1

### French beef doubts

France may withdraw its support for an easing of the ban on British beef at today's meeting of farm ministers. The move comes after French scientists recommended keeping the embargo. Pages 1, 2

### Millennium summit

The heads of Britain's top companies have been summoned to a meeting with Michael Heseltine for urgent talks to save the troubled millennium celebrations project. Page 1

### Seven-day Church

The Archbishop of Canterbury called on the Church of England to adapt to the commercialisation of Sunday by creating a seven-day-a-week Church. Page 2

### Hockney in print

After experiments with faxes and photocopiers, the artist, David Hockney has been inspired by ink-jet printing technology to produce radical new work. Page 3

### In the bunker

Nuclear bunkers that would have provided bases for regional governments during a missile attack on Britain are to become tourist attractions. Page 5

### Robinson visit

Mary Robinson, the Irish President who is reckoned by her compatriots to be the world's most popular head of state, arrived in Britain tomorrow for her first official visit. Page 6

### Tennis balls serve to save mouse

Concern about the welfare of Britain's smallest mammal has prompted naturalists to renew efforts to protect the elusive harvest mouse. More than 11,000 tennis balls, mounted on bamboo poles, are being made into humane traps and sent to members of the Mammal Society to assess how the tiny rodents are faring amid modern farming methods. Page 8



The RAF's Red Arrows accompany Concorde in a fly-past yesterday to celebrate Heathrow airport's fiftieth anniversary

## BUSINESS

### Rescue mission

One of Britain's biggest accountancy practices is to start salvage work among the ruins of the Facia retail group, which collapsed at the weekend. Page 48

### Buried hatchet

The Woolwich, Britain's third largest building society, will soon announce a financial settlement with Peter Robinson, the chief executive sacked in April, clearing the way for possible takeover talks with the Prudential group. Page 48

### Fresh hostilities

The City is expecting another outbreak of take-over wars among the privatised utilities this week, with an expected higher bid from Scottish Power for Southern Water, exceeding the £1.6 billion offer from another utility already tabled. Page 48

## ARTS

### What is art?

Is it time to overhaul the annual Royal Academy Summer Exhibition? Or is it a venerable institution that should be left just the way it is? Page 18

### Laughing like mad

Jokes about animals, gags in the military, and mad cow disease dominated the Kilkenny Comedy Festival in Ireland at the weekend. Page 18

### Theatre discovery

Deragh Carroll's *Language Roulette*, on at the Old Museum Arts Centre in Belfast, reveals that another promising playwright is born. Page 18

### Passé pop

The Cure came to Earls Court at the weekend to wow their legions of fans, but David Sinclair, for one, was left disappointed by Robert Smith's team. Page 19

## FEATURES

### The lowdown on high society

Day One of our guide to the changing face of high society in the Nineties. Page 15

### The curse of Alzheimer's

A special report on the effects on families of a devastating and little-understood illness. Page 17

### Going for gold

As science is handed tens of millions of pounds for public relations, basic research is being starved, reports Nigel Hawkes. Page 16

### Paradox pose

Anjana Ahuja reports on research which has brought to life a popular thought-experiment known as Schrödinger's cat. Page 16

## MIND AND MATTER

### Motor racing

Michael Schumacher won the Spanish Grand Prix in Barcelona after Damon Hill slid out of the rain-hit race. Jean Alesi was second. Jacques Villeneuve, third. Page 25

### Football

Niall Quinn marked his first match as captain by scoring the first goal that brought Ireland a 2-2 draw with Croatia at Lansdowne Road. Page 36

### Cricket

England call on three uncapped players in the 13 for the first Test match against India at Edgbaston, starting on Thursday: Ronan Irani, Alan Mullally and Mün Patel. Page 27

### Tennis

Monica Seles overcame a psychological barrier at the French Open by beating Magdalena Maleeva, her opponent at the time of her court-side attack in 1993 at Hamburg. Page 27

### Golf

Frank Nobilo, of New Zealand, with a final round of 64, won the Deutsche Bank Open by one stroke from Colin Montgomerie, of Scotland. Page 26

### Racing

The British hope Polaris Flight was beaten by a short head by Ragnar, of France, in a thrilling finish to the French Derby. Page 35

## SPORT

### Motor racing

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### MATTHEW PARRIS

Pity the Bishop of Derby. He keeps sending candidates for the job and the three villages keep failing to agree on one. Many are sent but none are chosen. Page 20

## TV LISTINGS

Preview: Unprecedented access to preparations for a shuttle mission in *Astronauts* (Channel 4, 9pm). Review: Lynne Truss on the dangers of having a sweet tooth in the rainforest. Page 47

## OPINION

**Lighting the torch**  
The power to amaze, entertain and inspire still lies as much in participation as personal victory, and in our varying ways we can all take part. Let the games begin. Page 21

## To a habitable habitat

The world is not looking for a packaged UN declaration, but for fresh ideas on how cities can remain habitable, safe and dynamic in the future. Page 21

## Sexual, continued

Hard-working, middle-aged men, too often away from their homes, are subject to temptation. And ambitious politicians have a sex drive that is quite disproportionate to their sex appeal. Page 21

## COLUMNS

**PETER RIDDELL**  
Kenneth Clarke is now a hate figure for the Euro-sceptic Right. Not only is he no longer mentioned as a possible party leader but his enemies would like to force him out of office. Perhaps he should compare notes with Gordon Brown, who has also faced internal criticism for presenting uncomfortable home truths. Page 20

## OBITUARIES

ivan Sutton, musical impresario; Ivor Mills, ITN broadcaster; Tamara Toumanova, ballerina and film actress. Page 23

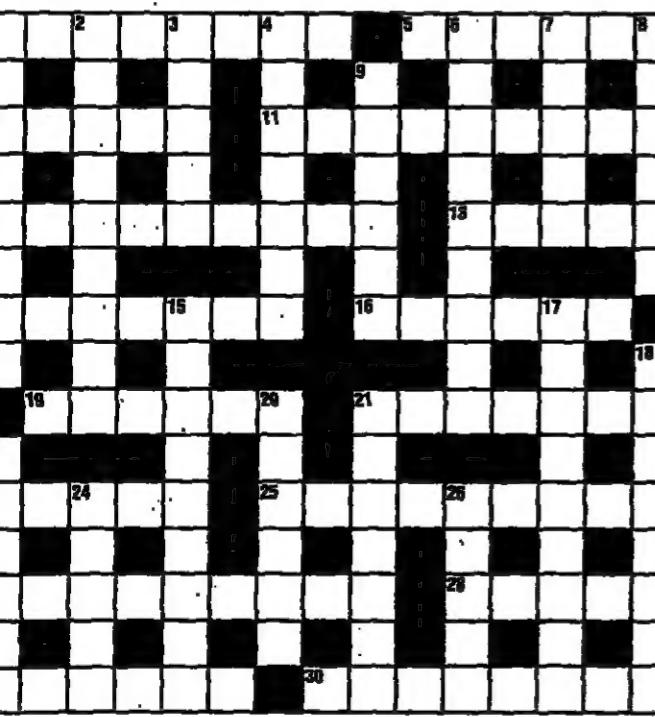
## LETTERS

UK action on beef ban; penal reform; Great Wall myth. Page 21

## THE PAPERS

The first elections in the Czech Republic — after its separation from Slovakia — have confirmed the solid development of a democracy which has steered the Czechs dexterously down a liberal-conservative path. — ABC, Madrid

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,184



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